

**KELLAHIN AND KELLAHIN**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

EL PATIO BUILDING

117 NORTH GUADALUPE

POST OFFICE BOX 2265

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504-2265

TELEPHONE (505) 982-4285  
TELEFAX (505) 982-2047

W. THOMAS KELLAHIN\*

\*NEW MEXICO BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION  
RECOGNIZED SPECIALIST IN THE AREA OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES-OIL AND GAS LAW

JASON KELLAHIN (RETIRED 1991)

September 14, 2001

**HAND DELIVERED**

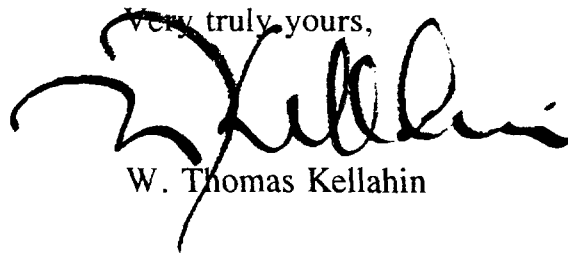
Ms. Lori Wrotenbery, Director  
Oil Conservation Division  
1220 South Saint Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

**Re: NMOCD Case 12731  
Application of TMBR/Sharp Drilling, Inc.  
for an order staying Division approval of two  
applications for permits to drill to David  
H. Arrington Oil & Gas, Inc.,  
Lea County, New Mexico**

Dear Ms. Wrotenbery:

On behalf of TMBR/Sharp, Inc., please find enclosed our referenced application which has been set for hearing on September 20, 2001.

Very truly yours,



W. Thomas Kellahin

cc: Michael E. Stogner, OCD Hearing Examiner  
David Brooks, OCD Attorney  
Chris Williams  
Supervisory (OCD-Hobbs)  
Gene Gallegos, Esq.  
Attorney for David H. Arrington Oil & Gas, Inc.  
TMBR/Sharp Drilling, Inc.  
attn: Tom Brown  
c/o Susan Richardson, Esq.

SEP 14 AM 11:50  
OCD

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF  
TMBR/SHARP DRILLING, INC. FOR AN ORDER  
STAYING DIVISION APPROVAL OF TWO  
APPLICATIONS FOR PERMIT TO DRILL BY  
DAVID H. ARRINGTON OIL & GAS, INC.  
LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO**

**CASE NO. 12731**

**APPLICATION OF TMBR/SHARP DRILLING, INC.  
FOR AN ORDER  
STAYING  
DAVID H. ARRINGTON OIL & GAS INC.  
FROM COMMENCING OPERATIONS**

Comes now TMBR/Sharp Drilling, INC. ("TMBR/Sharp") by its attorneys, Kellahin & Kellahin, applies to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division for an order staying David H. Arrington Oil & Gas, Inc.'s ("Arrington") applications for permit and from commencing operations to drill the Triple Hackle Dragon 25 Well No. 1, W/2 Section 25, T16S, R35E and the Blue Drake 23 Well No. 1, E/2 Section 23, T16S, R35E, Lea County, New Mexico pending a final adjudication of ownership in District Court Cause CV-2001-315C, Lea County, New Mexico;

And in support states:

**RELIEF REQUESTED**

(1) There exists a dispute between TMBR/Sharp Drilling, Inc. ("TMBR/Sharp") and David H. Arrington Oil & Gas Inc. ("Arrington") over operations in the E/2 of Section 25 and the E/2 of Section 23, T16S, R35E, NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico.

NMOCD APPLICATION  
TMBR/SHARP DRILLING, INC.  
-PAGE 2-

(2) Both TMBR/Sharp and Arrington have filed with the Division (OCD-Hobbs) competing Applications for Permit to Drill ("APD").

(3) The competing APDs are in conflict with each other in that the drilling of these two wells by one party will preclude the drilling of the other two wells by the other party.

(4) The District Supervisor of the Hobbs Office of the Division has approved the two Arrington APDs and correspondingly denied the two TMBR/Sharp APDs and in doing so has favored one title claimant over another.

(5) In doing so, the District Supervisor has entered a letter/order which has effectively determined a title dispute in favor of Arrington and which will cause TMBR/Sharp's leases to expire for failure to commence a well within the term required for continuous development.

(6) This matter involves a title dispute between the parties which is now the subject of litigation filed with the District Court Clerk, Lea County, New Mexico.

(7) By letter dated August 27, 2001, David H. Arrington Oil & Gas Inc. acknowledged receipt of TMBR/Sharp's application for an Emergency Order filed on August 24, 2001 and agreed that it will not commence operations on either well until after this matter comes before the Division for hearing on the next available Examiner hearing docket; **See Exhibit 1.**

(8) This case has been set for hearing on the September 20, 2001 Division Examiner's hearing docket.

(9) There is good cause to issue an order in this matter in order to maintain the status quo and preclude any party from gaining an unfair advantage over another while this matter is addressed by the District Court.

(10) The Director of Division has primary jurisdiction over actions taken by the District Supervisor and must now take action to preclude Arrington from commencing the drilling of these wells pending a resolution of the dispute between Arrington and TMBR/Sharp; **See 19 NMAC 15.C.102; 19 NMAC 15.M.1101;**

## INTRODUCTION

(11) On July 19, 2001, Arrington filed an application for permit to drill ("APD" including Division Form C-101 and Form C-102) and obtained approval from the OCD-Hobbs to drill the Triple Hackle Dragon 25 Well No. 1 in the N/2 of Section 25, T16S, R35E, Lea County, New Mexico. **See Exhibit 2**

(12) On July 30, 2001, Arrington filed an application for permit to drill ("APD" including Division Form C-1-1 and Form C-102) and obtained approval from the OCD-Hobbs to drill the Blue Drake 23 Well No. 1 in the E/2 of Section 23, T16S, R35E, Lea County, New Mexico. **See Exhibit 3**

(13) Arrington's right to drill and operate these wells is predicated upon his assumption that two oil & gas leases held by TMBR/Sharp had expired and that two "top leases" now held by Arrington are in effect.

(14) Arrington certified on Division Forms C-101 and C-102 that it was the operator for these two wells.

(15) Based upon information and belief, Arrington's certifications were false because, at the time filed its APDs, it did not have a working interest ownership in either spacing unit and therefore was not the operator.

(16) TMBR/Sharp contends that the disputed lease acreage is subject to a July 1, 1998 Operating Agreement (**See Exhibit 4**) and that its leases of the disputed lease acreage were perpetuated by TMBR/Sharp's drilling of the Blue Fin "24" Well No. 1 which was dedicated to a 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit consisting of the W/2 of Section 24, T16S, R35E. **See Exhibit 5.**

(17) On August 8, 2001, the OCD-Hobbs issued a letter/order denying TMBR/Sharp's permit to drill its Blue Fin 25 Well No. 1 to be dedicated to a 320-acre spacing unit consisting of the W/2 of Section 25, T16S, R35E stating that the permit granted to Arrington for his Triple Hackle Dragon Well No. 1 with a N/2 spacing unit orientation precluded the approval of TMBR/Sharp's application. **See Exhibit 6.**

(18) On August 8, 2001, the OCD-Hobbs issued a letter/order denying TMBR/Sharp's permit to drill its Leavelle 23 Well No. 1 to be dedicated to a 320-acre spacing unit consisting of the E/2 of Section 23, T16S, R35E stating that the permit granted to Arrington for his Blue Drake 23 Well No. 1 also with a W/2 spacing unit orientation precluded the approval of TMBR/Sharp's application. **See Exhibit 7.**

(19) On August 21, 2001, TMBR/Sharp filed litigation in the Fifth Judicial District Court, Lea County, New Mexico seeking a judicial determination, among other things, of TMBR/Sharp's right to drill and operate wells on the disputed lease acreage. **See Exhibit 8.**

### **BACKGROUND**

(20) Effective December 7, 1997, Madeline Stokes entered into an oil and gas lease with Ameristate Oil & Gas, Inc. ("Stokes Lease") covering, among other lands, the NW/4SW/4 and NW/4 of Section 24, T16S, R35E, Lea County, New Mexico;

(21) Effective December 7, 1997, Erma Stokes Hamilton entered into an oil and gas lease with Ameristate Oil & Gas, Inc. ("Hamilton Lease") covering, among other lands, the NW/4SW/4 and NW/4 of Section 24, T16S, R35E, Lea County, New Mexico;

(22) The primary term for both of these leases ended at midnight June 6, 2001;

(23) TMBR/Sharp is successor to Ameristate.

(24) Effective July 1, 1998, TMBR/Sharp entered into an operating agreement covering lands in Lea County, New Mexico including the Hamilton and Stokes' lands.

(25) On November 17, 2000, TMBR/Sharp as operator under this operating agreement, filed an application for permit to drill its Blue Fin "24" Well No. 1 and to dedicate a 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit consisting of the W/2 of Section 24 to the well. The permit was approved on November 22, 2000 by the OCD.

(26) On March 29, 2001 TMBR/Sharp commenced drilling and on June 29, 2001 completed its Blue Fin 24 Well No. 1 for production from the North Townsend Mississippian Gas Pool.

(27) TMBR/Sharp contends that its drilling and completion of the Blue Fin 24 Well No. 1 was sufficient to extend the Hamilton and Stokes leases beyond their primary terms.

(28) On March 27, 2001, Madeline Stokes entered into an oil and gas lease with James D. Huff ("Stokes-Huff top lease") which covered the same lands as her lease to Ameristate.

(29) On March 27, 2001, Erma Stokes Hamilton entered into an oil and gas lease with James D. Huff ("Hamilton-Huff top lease") which covered the same lands as her lease to Ameristate.

(30) On information and belief, Arrington controls some or all of the operating rights in the Hamilton-Huff top lease and the Stokes-Huff top lease.

(31) On information and belief, Arrington obtained approval of its applications for permits to drill based upon a claim of interest in the Hamilton top lease and the Stokes top lease.

(32) The applications for permit to drill ("APDs") filed by Arrington has prevented TMBR/Sharp from exercising its rights and fulfilling its obligations under the Stokes and Hamilton leases.

(33) TMBR/Sharp attempted to drill two additional wells in accordance with the provisions of the Stokes and Hamilton leases but was denied permits by the NMOCD because APD's had already been approved for Arrington.

(34) TMBR/Sharp has commenced litigation seeking, among other things, a declaratory judgment from the District Court that the Stokes and Hamilton Lease have been extended beyond their primary term and are in full force and effect because TMBR/Sharp was drilling upon lands properly pooled with lands covered by these leases across the expiration of the primary terms of those leases.

### CONCLUSION

(35) TMBR/Sharp's correlative rights will be impaired if Arrington decides to proceed with either of these wells prior to having this matter resolved either voluntarily or by the district court.

NMOCD APPLICATION  
TMBR/SHARP DRILLING, INC.  
-PAGE 6-

(36) The entry of an Order by the Division will maintain the status quo and will not harm Arrington.

(37) TMBR/Sharp requests that:

(a) David H. Arrington Oil & Gas Inc. is hereby stayed from commencing operations on its Blue Drake 23 Well No. 1 (API #30-025-35644) within the E/2 of Section 23, T16S, R35E, Lea County, New Mexico, pending a final adjudication of District Court Cause CV-2001-315C, Lea County, New Mexico; and

(b) David H. Arrington Oil & Gas Inc. is hereby stayed from commencing operations on its Triple Hackle Dragon 25 Well No. 1 (API #30-025-35644) within the W/2 of Section 25, T16S, R35E, Lea County, New Mexico, pending a final adjudication of District Court Cause CV-2001-315C, Lea County, New Mexico.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Thomas Kellahin', with a large, stylized initial 'W' and a long, sweeping underline.

W. THOMAS KELLAHIN  
KELLAHIN & KELLAHIN  
P. O. Box 2265  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501  
(505) 982-4285

HOLLAND & HART LLP  
AND  
CAMPBELL & CARR  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

DENVER • ASPEN  
BOULDER • COLORADO SPRINGS  
DENVER TECH CENTER  
BILLINGS • BOISE  
CHEYENNE • JACKSON HOLE  
SALT LAKE CITY • SANTA FE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

SUITE 1  
110 NORTH GUADALUPE  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501-6525  
MAILING ADDRESS  
P.O. BOX 2208  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504-2208

TELEPHONE (505) 988-4421  
FACSIMILE (505) 983-6043  
www.hollandhart.com

August 27, 2001

**HAND DELIVERED**

Lori Wrotenbery, Director  
Oil Conservation Division  
New Mexico Department of Energy,  
Minerals and Natural Resources  
1200 South Saint Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

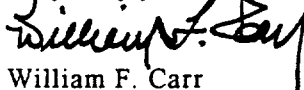
Re: Request of TMBR/Sharp Drilling for an Emergency Order Staying David H. Arrington Oil & Gas, Inc. from commencing operations pending hearing.

Dear Ms. Wrotenbery;

On August 24, 2001, I was served with the Application of TMBR/Sharp Drilling, Inc. for an Emergency Order Staying David H. Arrington Oil & Gas, Inc. from commencing operations on its proposed Triple Hackle Dragon 25 Well No. 1 in the W/2 of Section 25, Township 16 South, Range 35 East and the Blue Drake 23 Well No. 1 in the E/2 of Section 23, Township 16 South, Range 35 East, NMPM Lea County, New Mexico. I was advised by W. Thomas Kellahin, attorney for TMBR/Sharp Drilling, that the Application for Emergency Order would be heard by the Division at 8:00 a. m. on Monday, August 28, 2001.

I will not be representing David H. Arrington Oil & Gas, Inc. in this matter and have been advised that at this time Arrington has not determine who will represent David H. Arrington Oil & Gas, Inc. in this and related proceedings. However, I am the attorney for Arrington in other matters and contacted Mr. Jeffery G. Bane at Arrington's office concerning the Application for an Emergency Order. I have been authorized by Arrington to advise the Division that Arrington Oil & Gas, Inc. will not commence operations on either the Triple Hackle Dragon 23 Well No. 1 nor the Blue Drake 23 Well No. 1 until after this matter comes before the Division for hearing on the next available Examiner hearing docket which we understand to be scheduled for September 20, 2001.

Very truly yours,

  
William F. Carr

Cc: Jeffery G. Bane  
David H. Arrington Oil & Gas, Inc.





Physical  
1623 N. French Dr., Hobbs, NM 88240  
District II  
811 South First, Artesia, NM 88210  
District III  
1000 Rio Brazos Road, Aztec, NM 87410  
District IV  
2040 South Pacheco, Santa Fe, NM 87505

State of New Mexico  
Energy Minerals and Natural Resources

Form C-101  
Revised March 17, 1999

Oil Conservation Division  
2040 South Pacheco  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Submit to appropriate District Office  
State Lease - 6 Copies  
Pool Lease - 5 Copies

☐ AMENDED REPORT

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO DRILL, RE-ENTER, DEEPEN, PLUGBACK OR ADD A ZONE

Operator Name and Address David H. Arrington Oil & Gas, Inc P.O. Box 2071 Midland, Texas 79702		OCRD Number 005898
Property Code 28458	Property Name Triple-Hackle Dragon "25"	API Number 30-025-35636
		Well No. 1

Surface Location									
UL or lot no.	Section	Township	Range	Lot 1/4	Feet from the	North/South line	Feet from the	East/West line	County
E	25	16S	35E		1815'	North	750'	West	Lea

Proposed Bottom Hole Location If Different From Surface									
UL or lot no.	Section	Township	Range	Lot 1/4	Feet from the	North/South line	Feet from the	East/West line	County
Proposed Pool 1 Townsend Mississippian					Proposed Pool 2				

Work Type Code N	Well Type Code Gas	Casing/Drill Rotary	Lease Type Code Fee	Ground Level Elevation 3958'
Multiple NO	Proposed Depth 13,400'	Perforation Mississippian	Compressor Patterson	Start Date ASAP

Proposed Casing and Cement Program					
Hole Size	Casing Size	Casing weight/foot	Setting Depth	Seals of Cement	Equivalent TOC
17 1/2"	13 3/8"	54 1/4#	450'	500 sxs	Circulate
11"	8 5/8"	32#	4900'	1300 sxs	Circulate
7 7/8"	5 1/2"	17#	13,400'	1200 sxs	500' above
UPPER MOST PAY					

\* Describe the proposal program. If this application is to DEEPEN or PLUG BACK, give the data on the present productive zone and proposed new productive zone. Describe the blowout prevention program, if any. Use additional sheets if necessary.

Set surface casing at 450'. Circulate cement to surface. Drill 11" hole to 4900'. Set 8 5/8" intermediate casing at 4900'. Circulate cement to surface. Install and test BOP's to 5000 psi. Drill 7 7/8" hole to 13,400'. DST any prospective pays. Run 5 1/2" production casing through Mississippian if justified.

Permit Expires 1 Year From Approval  
Date Unless Drilling Underway

I hereby certify that the information given above is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. Signature: <i>Danny Ledford</i> Printed name: Danny Ledford Title: Geologist Date: 07/17/2001 Phone: (915) 682-6685		OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION Approved by: <i>Paul J. King</i> Title: Geologist Approval Date: 7/17/2001 Conditions of Approval: <input type="checkbox"/> Expiration Date:	
---	--	---	--



District I  
1623 N. French Dr., Hobbs, NM 88240  
District II  
811 South First, Artesia, NM 88210  
District III  
1000 Rio Brazos Road, Aztec, NM 87410  
District IV  
2040 South Pacheco, Santa Fe, NM 87505

State of New Mexico  
Energy Minerals and Natural Resources

Oil Conservation Division  
2040 South Pacheco  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Form C-101  
Revised March 17, 1999

Submit to appropriate District Office  
State Lease - 6 Copies  
Fee Lease - 5 Copies

☐ AMENDED REPORT

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO DRILL, RE-ENTER, DEEPEN, PLUGBACK, OR ADD A ZONE

Operator Name and Address David H. Arrington Oil & Gas, Inc P.O. Box 2071 Midland, Texas 79702		OGRID Number 005898
Property Code 28458	Property Name Triple-Hackle Dragon "25"	API Number 30-025-35636
Well No.		

UL or lot no.	Section	Township	Range	Lot Idn	Feet from the	North/South line	Feet from the	East/West line	County
E	25	16S	35E		1815'	North	750'	West	Lea

Proposed Bottom Hole Location If Different From Surface

UL or lot no.	Section	Township	Range	Lot Idn	Feet from the	North/South line	Feet from the	East/West line	County
Proposed Pool 1 Townsend Mississippian					Proposed Pool 2				

Work Type Code N	Well Type Code Gas	Cubitatory Rotary	Lease Type Code Fee	Ground Level Elevation 3958'
Multiples NO	Proposed Depth 13,400'	Formation Mississippian	Contractor Patterson	Spud Date ASAP

Proposed Casing and Cement Program

Hole Size	Casing Size	Casing weight/foot	Setting Depth	Sacks of Cement	Estimated TOC
17 1/2"	13 3/8"	54 1/2#	450'	500 sxs	Circulate
11"	8 5/8"	32#	4900'	1300 sxs	Circulate
7 7/8"	5 1/4"	17#	13,400'	1200 sxs	500' above upper most pay

" Describe the proposed program. If this application is to DEEPEN or PLUG BACK, give the data on the present productive zone and proposed new productive zone.

Describe the blowout prevention program, if any. Use additional sheets if necessary.

Set surface casing at 450'. Circulate cement to surface. Drill 11" hole to 4900'. Set 8 5/8" intermediate casing at 4900'. Circulate cement to surface. Install and test BOP's to 5000 psi. Drill 7 7/8" hole to 13,400'. DST any prospective pays. Run 5 1/2" production casing through Mississippian if justified.

Permit Expires 1 Year From Approval  
Date Unless Drilling Underway

" I hereby certify that the information given above is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature:

Printed name: Danny Ledford

Title: Geologist

Date: 07/17/2001

Phone: (915) 682-6685

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

Approved by:

Orig. Signature:

Paul Eakin

Geologist

Title:

Approval Date: JUL 19 2001

Expiration Date:

Conditions of Approval:

Attached ☐

DISTRICT I  
P. O. Box 1980  
Hobbs, NM 88241-1980

DISTRICT II  
P. O. Drawer DD  
Artesia, NM 88211-0719

DISTRICT III  
1000 Rio Brazos Rd.  
Amarillo, NM 87410

DISTRICT IV  
P. O. Box 2088  
Santa Fe, NM 87507-2088

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department

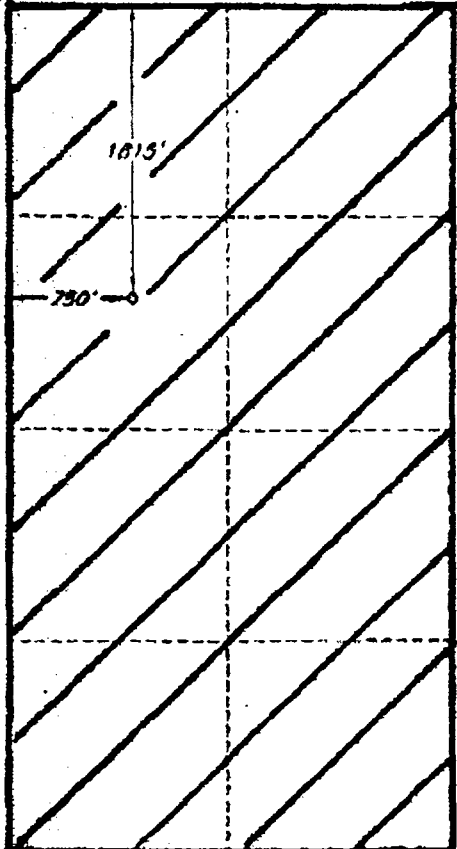
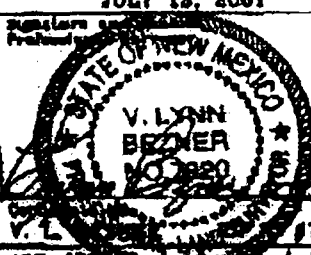
**OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**  
P. O. Box 2088  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2088

Form C-102  
Revised 02-10-84  
Instructions on back

Send to the Appropriate  
District Office  
State License - 4 copies  
Fee License - 3 copies

☐ AMENDED REPORT

**WELL LOCATION AND ACREAGE DEDICATION PLAT**

* APT Number <b>30-025-35636</b>		* Post Code <b>86380</b>		* Well Name <b>Townsend Mississippian</b>	
* Property Code <b>28458</b>		* Property Name <b>TRIPLE-MACKLE DRAGON 25</b>			* Well Number <b>1</b>
* OCSID No. <b>005898</b>		* Operator Name <b>DAVID H. ARRINGTON OIL &amp; GAS COMPANY</b>			* Elevation <b>3950'</b>
<b>" SURFACE LOCATION "</b>					
UL or lot no. <b>8</b>	Section <b>25</b>	Township <b>18 SOUTH</b>	Range <b>35 EAST, N.M.P.M.</b>	Lot No. <b>1815'</b>	Foot from the North/South line <b>NORTH</b>
				Foot from the East/West line <b>750'</b>	County <b>LEA</b>
<b>" BOTTOM HOLE LOCATION IF DIFFERENT FROM SURFACE "</b>					
UL or lot no.	Section	Township	Range	Lot No.	Foot from the North/South line
				Foot from the East/West line	County
* Dedicated Acre <b>320</b>		* Joint or L&P		* Dedication Code	
				* Order No.	
NO ALLOWABLE WELL BE ASSIGNED TO THIS COMPLETION UNTIL ALL INTERESTS HAVE BEEN CONSOLIDATED OR A NON-STANDARD UNIT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE DIVISION					
				<b>OPERATOR CERTIFICATION</b> I hereby certify that the information contained herein is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. Signature <i>D. Ledford</i> Printed Name <b>Danny Ledford</b> Title <b>Geologist</b> Date <b>7/17/01</b>	
				<b>SURVEYOR CERTIFICATION</b> I hereby certify that the well location shown on this plat was plotted from field notes of actual surveys made by me or under my supervision, and that the same is true and correct to the best of my belief. Date of Survey <b>JULY 12, 2001</b> Signature and Professional Seal  V. L. BEEMER NO. 2820 JULY 12, 2001 JOS 17760 / J.C.P.	

**DISTRICT I**  
P. O. Box 1980  
Hobbs, NM 88241-1980

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department

Form C  
Revised 02-1

Instructions on

Submit to the Approver  
District Office  
State Lease - 4 copies  
Fee Lease - 3 copies

**DISTRICT II**  
P. O. Drawer 00  
Artesia, NM 88211-0719

**OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**  
P. O. Box 2088  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2088

☐ AMENDED REP

**DISTRICT III**  
1000 Rio Brazos Rd  
Aztec, NM 87410

**DISTRICT IV**  
P. O. Box 2088  
Santa Fe, NM 87507-2088

**WELL LOCATION AND ACREAGE DEDICATION PLAT**

* API Number <b>30-025-35636</b>	* Pool Code <b>86380</b>	* Pool Name <b>Townsend Mississippian</b>
* Property Code <b>28458</b>	* Property Name <b>TRIPLE-HACKLE DRAGON 25</b>	* Well Number <b>1</b>
* OGRS No. <b>005898</b>	* Operator Name <b>DAVID H. ARRINGTON OIL &amp; GAS COMPANY</b>	* Elevation <b>3958'</b>

**" SURFACE LOCATION**

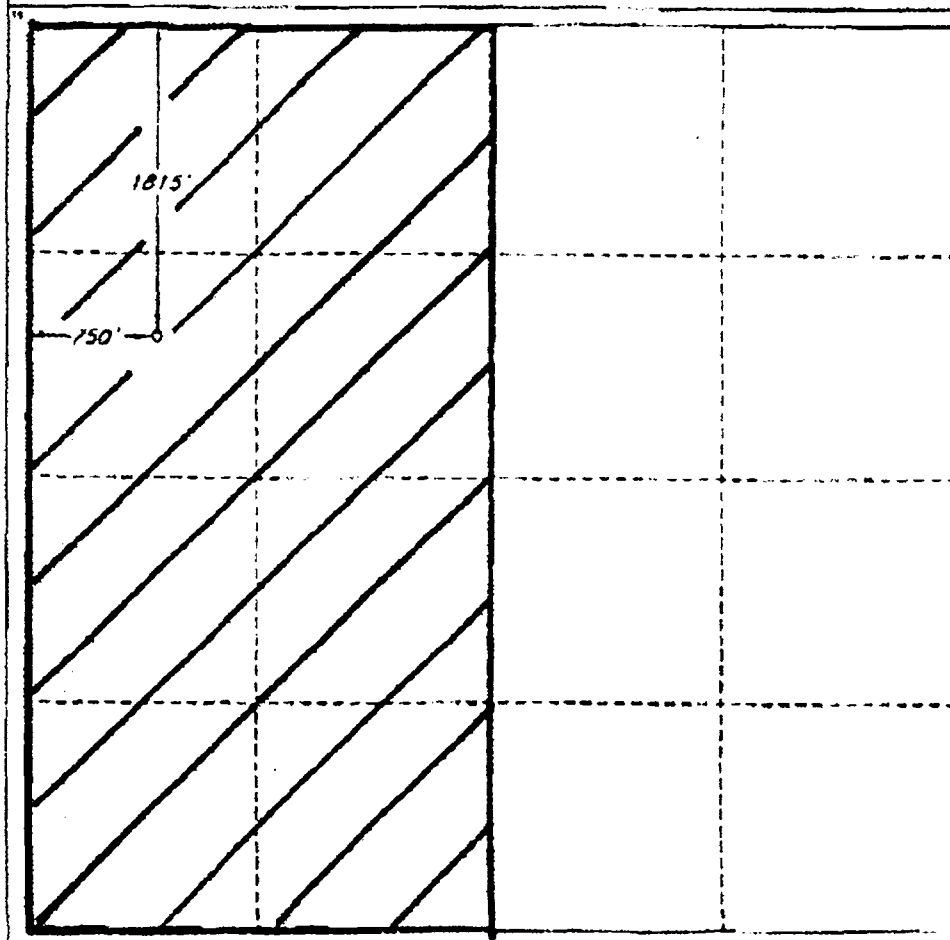
UL or lot no.	Section	Township	Range	Lot Ids	Feet from Line	North/South line	Feet from Line	East/West line	Count
<b>E</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>10 SOUTH</b>	<b>36 EAST, N.M.P.M.</b>		<b>1815'</b>	<b>NORTH</b>	<b>750'</b>	<b>WEST</b>	<b>LFA</b>

**" BOTTOM HOLE LOCATION IF DIFFERENT FROM SURFACE**

UL or lot no.	Section	Township	Range	Lot Ids	Feet from Line	North/South line	Feet from Line	East/West line	Count

* Dedicated Acres <b>320</b>	* Joint or Infill	* Consolidation Code	* Order No.

**NO ALLOWABLE WELL BE ASSIGNED TO THIS COMPLETION UNTIL ALL INTERESTS HAVE BEEN CONSOLIDATED OR A NON-STANDARD UNIT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE DIVISION**



**OPERATOR CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the information contained herein is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature

*Danny Ledford*

Printed Name

**Danny Ledford**

Title

**Geologist**

Date

**7/17/01**

**SURVEYOR CERTIFICATION**

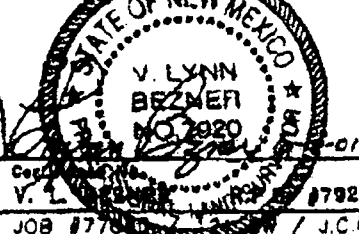
I hereby certify that the well location shown on this plat was plotted from field notes of actual surveys made by me or under my supervision, and that the same is true and correct to the best of my belief.

Date of Survey

**JULY 13, 2001**

Signature

Professional



JOE 8776 7 J.C.

## District I

1625 N. French Dr., Hobbs, NM 88240

## District II

811 South First Avenue, NM 88310

## District III

1000 Rio Brazos Road, Artesia, NM 87410

## District IV

2040 South Pacheco, Santa Fe, NM 87505

State of New Mexico  
Energy Minerals and Natural ResourcesOil Conservation Division  
2040 South Pacheco  
Santa Fe, NM 87505Form C-101  
Revised March 17, 1999Submit to appropriate District Office  
State Lease - 6 Copies  
Fee Lease - 5 Copies☐ AMENDED REPORT

## APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO DRILL, RE-ENTER, DEEPEN, PLUGBACK OR ADD A ZONE

Operator Name and Address David H. Arrington Oil & Gas, Inc P.O. Box 2071 Midland, Texas 79702		OGRID Number 005898
Property Code 28536	Property Name Blue Drake "23"	API Number 30-025-35644
Well No.		

## Surface Location

UL or lot no.	Section	Township	Range	Lot 1/4	Feet from the	North/South line	Feet from the	East/West line	County
I	23	16S	35E		1980'	South	660'	West	Lea

## Proposed Bottom Hole Location If Different From Surface

UL or lot no.	Section	Township	Range	Lot 1/4	Feet from the	North/South line	Feet from the	East/West line	County
Proposed Pool 1 Townsend Mississippian, north					Proposed Pool 2				

Work Type Code N	Well Type Code Gas	Cable/Rotary Rotary	Lease Type Code FEE	Ground Level Elevation 3959'
Multiple NO	Proposed Depth 13,400'	Permeability Mississippian	Connector Patterson	Spud Date ASAP

## Proposed Casing and Cement Program

Hole Size	Casing Size	Casing weight/foot	Setting Depth	Sacks of Cement	Estimated TOC
17 1/2"	13 3/8"	54 1/2#	450'	500 sxs	Circulate
11"	8 5/8"	32#	4900'	1300 sxs	Circulate
7 7/8"	5 1/2"	17#	13,400'	1200 sxs	500' above upper most pay

Describe the proposed program. If this application is to DEEPEN or PLUG BACK, give the data on the present productive zone and proposed new productive zone. Describe the blowout prevention program, if any. Use additional sheets if necessary.

Set surface casing at 450'. Circulate cement to surface. Drill 11" hole to 4900'. Set 8 5/8" intermediate casing at 4900'. Circulate cement to surface. Install and test BOP's to 5000 psi. Drill 7 7/8" hole to 13,400'. DST any prospective pays. Run 5 1/2" production casing through Mississippian if justified.

Permit Expires 1 Year From Approval  
Date Unless Drilling Underway

I hereby certify that the information given above is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature:

Printed name: Danny Ledford

Title: Geologist

Date: 07/25/2001

Phone: (915) 682-6685

## OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

Approved by:

Orig. Signed by

Title:

Paul Krutz  
Geologist

Approval Date:

JUL 30 2001

Expiration Date:

Conditions of Approval:

Attached ☐

EXHIBIT

3

DISTRICT I  
P. O. Box 1980  
Hobbs, NM 88241-1980

State of New Mexico  
Ex. y. Minerals, and Natural Resources Department

Form C-102  
Revised 02-18-94

Instructions on back

DISTRICT II  
P. O. Drawer 00  
Artesia, NM 88211-0719

## OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

P. O. Box 2088

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2088

Submit to the Appropriate  
District Office  
State Leases - 4 copies  
Fee Leases - 3 copies

☐ AMENDED REPORT

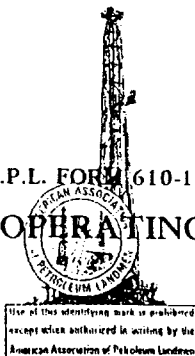
DISTRICT III  
1000 Rio Brazos Rd.  
Aztec, NM 87410

DISTRICT IV  
P. O. Box 2088  
Santa Fe, NM 87507-2088

## WELL LOCATION AND ACREAGE DEDICATION PLAT

* API Number 30-025-35644		* Pool Code 86390		* Pool Name Townsend Mississippian, NORTH	
* Property Code 28536		* Property Name BLUE DRAKE 23			* Well Number 1
* OGRD No. 005898		* Operator Name DAVID H. ARRINGTON OIL & GAS COMPANY			* Elevation 3959'
* SURFACE LOCATION					
UL or lot no. 1	Section 23	Township 18 SOUTH	Range 35 EAST, N.M.P.M.	Lot 160	Feet from the 1980'
		North/South Line SOUTH		Feet from the 880'	East/West line EAST
		County LEA			
* BOTTOM HOLE LOCATION IF DIFFERENT FROM SURFACE					
UL or lot no.	Section	Township	Range	Lot 160	Feet from the
		North/South Line		Feet from the	East/West line
		County			
** Dedicated Acres 320		** Joint or Infill		** Consolidation Code	
** Order No.					
NO ALLOWABLE WELL BE ASSIGNED TO THIS COMPLETION UNTIL ALL INTERESTS HAVE BEEN CONSOLIDATED OR A NON-STANDARD UNIT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE DIVISION					
				<b>OPERATOR CERTIFICATION</b> I hereby certify that the information contained herein is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.	
				Signature 	
				Printed Name Danny Ledford	
				Title Geologist	
				Date 7/25/01	
				<b>SURVEYOR CERTIFICATION</b> I hereby certify that the well location shown on this plat was plotted from field notes of actual surveys made by me or under my supervision, and that the same is true and correct to the best of my belief.	
				Date of Survey JULY 18, 2001	
				Signature and Seal of Professional Surveyor 	
				Certified True V. L. BEZNAF, LMS 7920	
				JOR 877410 NEW NM / J.C.P.	

A.A.P.L. FORM 610-1982  
MODEL FORM OPERATING AGREEMENT



OPERATING AGREEMENT

DATED

July 1, 19 98,

OPERATOR TMER/SHARP DRILLING, INC.

CONTRACT AREA Section 13: SE/4, Section 24: All, Section 25: NW/4,

all in T-16-S, R-35-E

COUNTY OR ~~PARISH~~ OF LEA STATE OF NEW MEXICO

COPYRIGHT 1982 — ALL RIGHTS RESERVED  
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PETROLEUM  
LANDMEN, 2408 CONTINENTAL LIFE BUILDING,  
FORT WORTH, TEXAS, 76102, APPROVED FORM.  
A.A.P.L. NO. 610 - 1982 REVISED



## OPERATING AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT, entered into by and between TMBR/SHARP DRILLING, INC., hereinafter designated and referred to as "Operator", and the signatory party or parties other than Operator, sometimes hereinafter referred to individually herein as "Non Operator", and collectively as "Non-Operators".

## WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the parties to this agreement are owners of oil and gas leases and/or oil and gas interests in the land identified in Exhibit "A", and the parties hereto have reached an agreement to explore and develop these leases and/or oil and gas interests for the production of oil and gas to the extent and as hereinafter provided,

NOW, THEREFORE, it is agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I.  
DEFINITIONS

As used in this agreement, the following words and terms shall have the meanings here ascribed to them:

A. The term "oil and gas" shall mean oil, gas, casinghead gas, gas condensate, and all other liquid or gaseous hydrocarbons and other marketable substances produced therefrom, unless an intent to limit the inclusiveness of this term is specifically stated.

B. The terms "oil and gas lease", "lease" and "leasehold" shall mean the oil and gas leases covering tracts of land lying within the Contract Area which are owned by the parties to this agreement.

C. The term "oil and gas interests" shall mean unleased fee and mineral interests in tracts of land lying within the Contract Area which are owned by parties to this agreement.

D. The term "Contract Area" shall mean all of the lands, oil and gas leasehold interests and oil and gas interests intended to be developed and operated for oil and gas purposes under this agreement. Such lands, oil and gas leasehold interests and oil and gas interests are described in Exhibit "A".

E. The term "drilling unit" shall mean the area fixed for the drilling of one well by order or rule of any state or federal body having authority. If a drilling unit is not fixed by any such rule or order, a drilling unit shall be the drilling unit as established by the pattern of drilling in the Contract Area or as fixed by express agreement of the Drilling Parties.

F. The term "drill site" shall mean the oil and gas lease or interest on which a proposed well is to be located.

G. The terms "Drilling Party" and "Consenting Party" shall mean a party who agrees to join in and pay its share of the cost of any operation conducted under the provisions of this agreement.

H. The terms "Non-Drilling Party" and "Non-Consenting Party" shall mean a party who elects not to participate in a proposed operation.

Unless the context otherwise clearly indicates, words used in the singular include the plural, the plural includes the singular, and the neuter gender includes the masculine and the feminine.

ARTICLE II.  
EXHIBITS

The following exhibits, as indicated below and attached hereto, are incorporated in and made a part hereof:

☒ A. Exhibit "A", shall include the following information:

- (1) Identification of lands subject to this agreement,
- (2) Restrictions, if any, as to depths, formations, or substances,
- (3) Percentages or fractional interests of parties to this agreement,
- (4) Oil and gas leases and/or oil and gas interests subject to this agreement,
- (5) Addresses of parties for notice purposes.

☐ B. Exhibit "B", Form of Lease.

☒ C. Exhibit "C", Accounting Procedure.

☒ D. Exhibit "D", Insurance.

☒ E. Exhibit "E", Gas Balancing Agreement.

☐ F. Exhibit "F", Non-Discrimination and Certification of Non-Segregated Facilities.

☐ G. Exhibit "G", Tax Partnership.

If any provision of any exhibit, except Exhibits "E" and "G", is inconsistent with any provision contained in the body of this agreement, the provisions in the body of this agreement shall prevail.

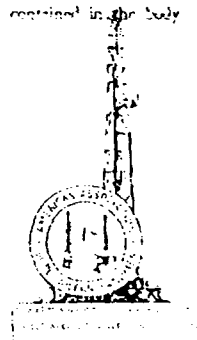




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### ARTICLE III. INTERESTS OF PARTIES

#### A. Oil and Gas Interests:

If any party owns an oil and gas interest in the Contract Area, that interest shall be treated for all purposes of this agreement and during the term hereof as if it were covered by the form of oil and gas lease attached hereto as Exhibit "B", and the owner thereof shall be deemed to own both the royalty interest reserved in such lease and the interest of the lessee thereunder.

#### B. Interests of Parties in Costs and Production:

Unless changed by other provisions, all costs and liabilities incurred in operations under this agreement shall be borne and paid, and all equipment and materials acquired in operations on the Contract Area shall be owned, by the parties as their interests are set forth in Exhibit "A". In the same manner, the parties shall also own all production of oil and gas from the Contract Area subject to the payment of royalties to the extent of one-eighth (1/8) which shall be borne as hereinafter set forth.

Regardless of which party has contributed the lease(s) and/or oil and gas interest(s) hereto on which royalty is due and payable, each party entitled to receive a share of production of oil and gas from the Contract Area shall bear and shall pay or deliver, or cause to be paid or delivered, to the extent of its interest in such production, the royalty amount stipulated hereinabove and shall hold the other parties free from any liability therefor. No party shall ever be responsible, however, on a price basis higher than the price received by such party, to any other party's lessor or royalty owner, and if any such other party's lessor or royalty owner should demand and receive settlement on a higher price basis, the party contributing the affected lease shall bear the additional royalty burden attributable to such higher price.

Nothing contained in this Article III.B. shall be deemed an assignment or cross-assignment of interests covered hereby.

#### C. Excess Royalties, Overriding Royalties and Other Payments:

Unless changed by other provisions, if the interest of any party in any lease covered hereby is subject to any royalty, overriding royalty, production payment or other burden on production in excess of the amount stipulated in Article III.B., such party so burdened shall assume and alone bear all such excess obligations and shall indemnify and hold the other parties hereto harmless from any and all claims and demands for payment asserted by owners of such excess burden.

#### D. Subsequently Created Interests:

If any party should hereafter create an overriding royalty, production payment or other burden payable out of production attributable to its working interest hereunder, or if such a burden existed prior to this agreement and is not set forth in Exhibit "A", or was not disclosed in writing to all other parties prior to the execution of this agreement by all parties, or is not a jointly acknowledged and accepted obligation of all parties (any such interest being hereinafter referred to as "subsequently created interest" irrespective of the timing of its creation and the party out of whose working interest the subsequently created interest is derived being hereinafter referred to as "burdened party"), and:

1. If the burdened party is required under this agreement to assign or relinquish to any other party, or parties, all or a portion of its working interest and/or the production attributable thereto, said other party, or parties, shall receive said assignment and/or production free and clear of said subsequently created interest and the burdened party shall indemnify and save said other party, or parties, harmless from any and all claims and demands for payment asserted by owners of the subsequently created interest; and,
2. If the burdened party fails to pay, when due, its share of expenses chargeable hereunder, all provisions of Article VII.B. shall be enforceable against the subsequently created interest in the same manner as they are enforceable against the working interest of the burdened party.

### ARTICLE IV. TITLES

#### A. Title Examination:

Title examination shall be made on the drillsite of any proposed well prior to commencement of drilling operations or, if the Drilling Parties so request, title examination shall be made on the leases and/or oil and gas interests included, or planned to be included, in the drilling unit around such well. The opinion will include the ownership of the working interest, minerals, royalty, overriding royalty and production payments under the applicable leases. At the time a well is proposed, each party contributing leases and/or oil and gas interests to the drillsite, or to be included in such drilling unit, shall furnish to Operator all abstracts (including federal lease status reports), title opinions, title papers and curative material in its possession free of charge. All such information not in the possession of or made available to Operator by the parties, but necessary for the examination of the title, shall be obtained by Operator. Operator shall cause title to be examined by attorneys on its staff or by outside attorneys. Copies of all title opinions shall be furnished to each party hereto. The cost incurred by Operator in this title program shall be borne as follows:

- ☐ Option No. 1: Costs incurred by Operator in procuring abstracts and title examination (including preliminary, supplemental, shut in gas royalty opinions and division order title opinions) shall be a part of the administrative overhead as provided in Exhibit "C", and shall not be a direct charge, whether performed by Operator's staff attorneys or by outside attorneys.

ARTICLE IV  
continued

Option No. 2: Costs incurred by Operator in procuring abstracts and fees paid outside attorneys for title examination (including preliminary, supplemental, shut-in gas royalty opinions and division order title opinions) shall be borne by the Drilling Parties in the proportion that the interest of each Drilling Party bears to the total interest of all Drilling Parties as such interests appear in Exhibit "A". Operator shall make no charge for services rendered by its staff attorneys or other personnel in the performance of the above functions.

Each party shall be responsible for securing curative matter and pooling amendments or agreements required in connection with leases or oil and gas interests contributed by such party. Operator shall be responsible for the preparation and recording of pooling designations or declarations as well as the conduct of hearings before governmental agencies for the securing of spacing or pooling orders. This shall not prevent any party from appearing on its own behalf at any such hearing.

No well shall be drilled on the Contract Area until after (1) the title to the drillsite or drilling unit has been examined as above provided, and (2) the title has been approved by the examining attorney or title has been accepted by all of the parties who are to participate in the drilling of the well.

## B. Loss of Title:

~~1. Failure of Title. Should any oil and gas interest or lease, or interest therein, be lost through failure of title, which loss results in a reduction of interest from that shown on Exhibit "A", the party contributing the affected lease or interest shall have ninety (90) days from final determination of title failure to acquire a new lease or other instrument curing the entirety of the title failure, which acquisition will not be subject to Article VIII.B., and failing to do so, this agreement, nevertheless, shall continue in force as to all remaining oil and gas leases and interests; and,~~

~~(a) The party whose oil and gas lease or interest is affected by the title failure shall bear alone the entire loss and it shall not be entitled to recover from Operator or the other parties any development or operating costs which it may have theretofore paid or incurred, but there shall be no additional liability on its part to the other parties hereto by reason of such title failure;~~

~~(b) There shall be no retroactive adjustment of expenses incurred or revenues received from the operation of the interest which has been lost, but the interests of the parties shall be revised on an acreage basis, as of the time it is determined finally that title failure has occurred, so that the interest of the party whose lease or interest is affected by the title failure will thereafter be reduced in the Contract Area by the amount of the interest lost;~~

~~(c) If the proportionate interest of the other parties hereto in any producing well theretofore drilled on the Contract Area is increased by reason of the title failure, the party whose title has failed shall receive the proceeds attributable to the increase in such interest (less costs and burdens attributable thereto) until it has been reimbursed for unrecovered costs paid by it in connection with such well;~~

~~(d) Should any person not a party to this agreement, who is determined to be the owner of any interest in the title which has failed, pay in any manner any part of the cost of operation, development, or equipment, such amount shall be paid to the party or parties who bore the costs which are so refunded;~~

~~(e) Any liability to account to a third party for prior production of oil and gas which arises by reason of title failure shall be borne by the party or parties whose title failed in the same proportions in which they shared in such prior production; and,~~

~~(f) No charge shall be made to the joint account for legal expenses, fees or salaries, in connection with the defense of the interest claimed by any party hereto, it being the intention of the parties hereto that each shall defend title to its interest and bear all expenses in connection therewith;~~

~~2. Loss by Non-Payment or Erroneous Payment of Amount Due. If, through mistake or oversight, any rental, shut-in well payment, minimum royalty or royalty payment, is not paid or is erroneously paid, and as a result a lease or interest therein terminates, there shall be no monetary liability against the party who failed to make such payment. Unless the party who failed to make the required payment secures a new lease covering the same interest within ninety (90) days from the discovery of the failure to make proper payment, which acquisition will not be subject to Article VIII.B., the interests of the parties shall be revised on an acreage basis, effective as of the date of termination of the lease involved, and the party who failed to make proper payment will no longer be credited with an interest in the Contract Area on account of ownership of the lease or interest which has terminated. In the event the party who failed to make the required payment shall not have been fully reimbursed, at the time of the loss, from the proceeds of the sale of oil and gas attributable to the lost interest, calculated on an acreage basis, for the development and operating costs theretofore paid on account of such interest, it shall be reimbursed for unrecovered actual costs theretofore paid by it (but not for its share of the cost of any dry hole previously drilled or wells previously abandoned) from so much of the following as is necessary to effect reimbursement:~~

~~(a) Proceeds of oil and gas, less operating expenses, theretofore accrued to the credit of the lost interest, on an acreage basis, up to the amount of unrecovered costs;~~

~~(b) Proceeds, less operating expenses, thereafter accrued attributable to the lost interest on an acreage basis, of that portion of oil and gas thereafter produced and marketed (excluding production from any wells thereafter drilled) which, in the absence of such lease termination, would be attributable to the lost interest on an acreage basis, up to the amount of unrecovered costs, the proceeds of said portion of the oil and gas to be contributed by the other parties in proportion to their respective interests; and,~~

~~(c) Any monies, up to the amount of unrecovered costs, that may be paid by any party who is, or becomes, the owner of the interest lost for the privilege of participating in the Contract Area or becoming a party to this agreement.~~

3. Other Losses: All losses incurred, other than those set forth in Articles IV.B.1. and IV.B.2. above, shall be joint losses and shall be borne by all parties in proportion to their interests. There shall be no readjustment of interests in the remaining portion of the Contract Area.

ARTICLE V.  
OPERATOR

A. Designation and Responsibilities of Operator:

TMBR/SHARP DRILLING, INC. shall be the Operator of the Contract Area, and shall conduct and direct and have full control of all operations on the Contract Area as permitted and required by, and within the limits of this agreement. It shall conduct all such operations in a good and workmanlike manner, but it shall have no liability as Operator to the other parties for losses sustained or liabilities incurred, except such as may result from gross negligence or willful misconduct.

B. Resignation or Removal of Operator and Selection of Successor:

1. Resignation or Removal of Operator: Operator may resign at any time by giving written notice thereof to Non-Operators. If Operator terminates its legal existence, no longer owns an interest hereunder in the Contract Area, or is no longer capable of serving as Operator, Operator shall be deemed to have resigned without any action by Non-Operators, except the selection of a successor. Operator may be removed if it fails or refuses to carry out its duties hereunder, or becomes insolvent, bankrupt or is placed in receivership, by the affirmative vote of two (2) or more Non-Operators owning a majority interest based on ownership as shown on Exhibit "A" remaining after excluding the voting interest of Operator. Such resignation or removal shall not become effective until 7:00 o'clock A.M. on the first day of the calendar month following the expiration of ninety (90) days after the giving of notice of resignation by Operator or action by the Non-Operators to remove Operator, unless a successor Operator has been selected and assumes the duties of Operator at an earlier date. Operator, after effective date of resignation or removal, shall be bound by the terms hereof as a Non Operator. A change of a corporate name or structure of Operator or transfer of Operator's interest to any single subsidiary, parent or successor corporation shall not be the basis for removal of Operator.

2. Selection of Successor Operator: Upon the resignation or removal of Operator, a successor Operator shall be selected by the parties. The successor Operator shall be selected from the parties owning an interest in the Contract Area at the time such successor Operator is selected. The successor Operator shall be selected by the affirmative vote of two (2) or more parties owning a majority interest based on ownership as shown on Exhibit "A"; provided, however, if an Operator which has been removed fails to vote or votes only to succeed itself, the successor Operator shall be selected by the affirmative vote of two (2) or more parties owning a majority interest based on ownership as shown on Exhibit "A" remaining after excluding the voting interest of the Operator that was removed.

C. Employees:

The number of employees used by Operator in conducting operations hereunder, their selection, and the hours of labor and the compensation for services performed shall be determined by Operator, and all such employees shall be the employees of Operator.

D. Drilling Contracts:

All wells drilled on the Contract Area shall be drilled on a competitive contract basis at the usual rates prevailing in the area. If it so desires, Operator may employ its own tools and equipment in the drilling of wells, but its charges therefor shall not exceed the prevailing rates in the area and the rate of such charges shall be agreed upon by the parties in writing before drilling operations are commenced, and such work shall be performed by Operator under the same terms and conditions as are customary and usual in the area in contracts of independent contractors who are doing work of a similar nature.

ARTICLE VI.  
DRILLING AND DEVELOPMENT

A. Initial Well:

On or before the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_, Operator shall commence the drilling of a well for oil and gas at the following location:

to be determined in the contract area at a later date

and shall thereafter continue the drilling of the well with due diligence to

a depth to be determined at a later date,

unless granite or other practically impenetrable substance or condition in the hole, which renders further drilling impractical, is encountered at a lesser depth, or unless all parties agree to complete or abandon the well at a lesser depth.

Operator shall make reasonable tests of all formations encountered during drilling which give indication of containing oil and gas in quantities sufficient to test, unless this agreement shall be limited in its application to a specific formation or formations, in which event Operator shall be required to test only the formation or formations to which this agreement may apply.

**ARTICLE VI**  
**continued**

If, in Operator's judgment, the well will not produce oil or gas in paying quantities, and it wishes to plug and abandon the well as a dry hole, the provisions of Article VI.E.1. shall thereafter apply.

**B. Subsequent Operations:**

1. **Proposed Operations:** Should any party hereto desire to drill any well on the Contract Area other than the well provided for in Article VI.A., or to rework, deepen or plug back a dry hole drilled at the joint expense of all parties or a well jointly owned by all the parties and not then producing in paying quantities, the party desiring to drill, rework, deepen or plug back such a well shall give the other parties written notice of the proposed operation, specifying the work to be performed, the location, proposed depth, objective formation and the estimated cost of the operation. The parties receiving such a notice shall have thirty (30) days after receipt of the notice within which to notify the party wishing to do the work whether they elect to participate in the cost of the proposed operation. If a drilling rig is on location, notice of a proposal to rework, plug back or drill deeper may be given by telephone and the response period shall be limited to forty eight (48) hours, exclusive of Saturday, Sunday and legal holidays. Failure of a party receiving such notice to reply within the period above fixed shall constitute an election by that party not to participate in the cost of the proposed operation. Any notice or response given by telephone shall be promptly confirmed in writing.

If all parties elect to participate in such a proposed operation, Operator shall, within ninety (90) days after expiration of the notice period of thirty (30) days (or as promptly as possible after the expiration of the forty-eight (48) hour period when a drilling rig is on location, as the case may be), actually commence the proposed operation and complete it with due diligence at the risk and expense of all parties hereto; provided, however, said commencement date may be extended upon written notice of same by Operator to the other parties, for a period of up to thirty (30) additional days if, in the sole opinion of Operator, such additional time is reasonably necessary to obtain permits from governmental authorities, surface rights (including rights-of-way) or appropriate drilling equipment, or to complete title examination or curative matter required for title approval or acceptance. Notwithstanding the force majeure provisions of Article XI, if the actual operation has not been commenced within the time provided (including any extension thereof as specifically permitted herein) and if any party hereto still desires to conduct said operation, written notice proposing same must be resubmitted to the other parties in accordance with the provisions hereof as if no prior proposal had been made.

2. **Operations by Less than All Parties:** If any party receiving such notice as provided in Article VI.B.1. or VII.D.1. (Option No. 2) elects not to participate in the proposed operation, then, in order to be entitled to the benefits of this Article, the party or parties giving the notice and such other parties as shall elect to participate in the operation shall, within ninety (90) days after the expiration of the notice period of thirty (30) days (or as promptly as possible after the expiration of the forty-eight (48) hour period when a drilling rig is on location, as the case may be) actually commence the proposed operation and complete it with due diligence. Operator shall perform all work for the account of the Consenting Parties; provided, however, if no drilling rig or other equipment is on location, and if Operator is a Non-Consenting Party, the Consenting Parties shall either: (a) request Operator to perform the work required by such proposed operation for the account of the Consenting Parties, or (b) designate one (1) of the Consenting Parties as Operator to perform such work. Consenting Parties, when conducting operations on the Contract Area pursuant to this Article VI.B.2., shall comply with all terms and conditions of this agreement.

If less than all parties approve any proposed operation, the proposing party, immediately after the expiration of the applicable notice period, shall advise the Consenting Parties of the total interest of the parties approving such operation and its recommendation as to whether the Consenting Parties should proceed with the operation as proposed. Each Consenting Party, within forty-eight (48) hours (exclusive of Saturday, Sunday and legal holidays) after receipt of such notice, shall advise the proposing party of its desire to (a) limit participation to such party's interest as shown on Exhibit "A" or (b) carry its proportionate part of Non-Consenting Parties' interests, and failure to advise the proposing party shall be deemed an election under (a). In the event a drilling rig is on location, the time permitted for such a response shall not exceed a total of forty-eight (48) hours (inclusive of Saturday, Sunday and legal holidays). The proposing party, at its election, may withdraw such proposal if there is insufficient participation and shall promptly notify all parties of such decision.

The entire cost and risk of conducting such operations shall be borne by the Consenting Parties in the proportions they have elected to bear same under the terms of the preceding paragraph. Consenting Parties shall keep the leasehold estates involved in such operations free and clear of all liens and encumbrances of every kind created by or arising from the operations of the Consenting Parties. If such an operation results in a dry hole, the Consenting Parties shall plug and abandon the well and restore the surface location at their sole cost, risk and expense. If any well drilled, reworked, deepened or plugged back under the provisions of this Article results in a producer of oil and/or gas in paying quantities, the Consenting Parties shall complete and equip the well to produce at their sole cost and risk.

## ARTICLE VI

## continued

and the well shall then be turned over to Operator and shall be operated by it at the expense and for the account of the Consenting Parties. Upon commencement of operations for the drilling, reworking, deepening or plugging back of any such well by Consenting Parties in accordance with the provisions of this Article, each Non-Consenting Party shall be deemed to have relinquished to Consenting Parties, and the Consenting Parties shall own and be entitled to receive, in proportion to their respective interests, all of such Non-Consenting Party's interest in the well and share of production therefrom until the proceeds of the sale of such share, calculated at the well, or market value thereof if such share is not sold, (after deducting production taxes, excise taxes, royalty, overriding royalty and other interests not excepted by Article III.D. payable out of or measured by the production from such well accruing with respect to such interest until it reverts) shall equal the total of the following:

(a) 500 ~~100~~% of each such Non-Consenting Party's share of the cost of any newly acquired surface equipment beyond the wellhead connections (including, but not limited to, stock tanks, separators, treaters, pumping equipment and piping), plus 100% of each such Non-Consenting Party's share of the cost of operation of the well commencing with first production and continuing until each such Non-Consenting Party's relinquished interest shall revert to it under other provisions of this Article, it being agreed that each Non-Consenting Party's share of such costs and equipment will be that interest which would have been chargeable to such Non-Consenting Party had it participated in the well from the beginning of the operations; and

(b) 500 % of that portion of the costs and expenses of drilling, reworking, deepening, plugging back, testing and completing, after deducting any cash contributions received under Article VIII.C., and 500 % of that portion of the cost of newly acquired equipment in the well (to and including the wellhead connections), which would have been chargeable to such Non-Consenting Party if it had participated therein.

An election not to participate in the drilling or the deepening of a well shall be deemed an election not to participate in any reworking or plugging back operation proposed in such a well, or portion thereof, to which the initial Non-Consent election applied that is conducted at any time prior to full recovery by the Consenting Parties of the Non-Consenting Party's recoupment account. Any such reworking or plugging back operation conducted during the recoupment period shall be deemed part of the cost of operation of said well and there shall be added to the sums to be recouped by the Consenting Parties one hundred percent (100%) of that portion of the costs of the reworking or plugging back operation which would have been chargeable to such Non-Consenting Party had it participated therein. If such a reworking or plugging back operation is proposed during such recoupment period, the provisions of this Article VI.B. shall be applicable as between said Consenting Parties in said well.

During the period of time Consenting Parties are entitled to receive Non-Consenting Party's share of production, or the proceeds therefrom, Consenting Parties shall be responsible for the payment of all production, severance, excise, gathering and other taxes, and all royalty, overriding royalty and other burdens applicable to Non-Consenting Party's share of production not excepted by Article III.D.

In the case of any reworking, plugging back or deeper drilling operation, the Consenting Parties shall be permitted to use, free of cost, all casing, tubing and other equipment in the well, but the ownership of all such equipment shall remain unchanged; and upon abandonment of a well after such reworking, plugging back or deeper drilling, the Consenting Parties shall account for all such equipment to the owners thereof, with each party receiving its proportionate part in kind or in value, less cost of salvage.

Within sixty (60) days after the completion of any operation under this Article, the party conducting the operations for the Consenting Parties shall furnish each Non-Consenting Party with an inventory of the equipment in and connected to the well, and an itemized statement of the cost of drilling, deepening, plugging back, testing, completing, and equipping the well for production; or, at its option, the operating party, in lieu of an itemized statement of such costs of operation, may submit a detailed statement of monthly billings. Each month thereafter, during the time the Consenting Parties are being reimbursed as provided above, the party conducting the operations for the Consenting Parties shall furnish the Non-Consenting Parties with an itemized statement of all costs and liabilities incurred in the operation of the well, together with a statement of the quantity of oil and gas produced from it and the amount of proceeds realized from the sale of the well's working interest production during the preceding month. In determining the quantity of oil and gas produced during any month, Consenting Parties shall use industry accepted methods such as, but not limited to, metering or periodic well tests. Any amount realized from the sale or other disposition of equipment newly acquired in connection with any such operation which would have been owned by a Non-Consenting Party had it participated therein shall be credited against the total unrecovered costs of the work done and of the equipment purchased in determining when the interest of such Non-Consenting Party shall revert to it as above provided; and if there is a credit balance, it shall be paid to such Non-Consenting Party.

## ARTICLE VI

## continued

If and when the Consenting Parties recover from a Non-Consenting Party's relinquished interest the amounts provided for above, the relinquished interests of such Non-Consenting Party shall automatically revert to it, and, from and after such reversion, such Non-Consenting Party shall own the same interest in such well, the material and equipment in or pertaining thereto, and the production therefrom as such Non-Consenting Party would have been entitled to had it participated in the drilling, reworking, deepening or plugging back of said well. Thereafter, such Non-Consenting Party shall be charged with and shall pay its proportionate part of the further costs of the operation of said well in accordance with the terms of this agreement and the Accounting Procedure attached hereto.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this Article VI.B.2., it is agreed that without the mutual consent of all parties, no wells shall be completed in or produced from a source of supply from which a well located elsewhere on the Contract Area is producing, unless such well conforms to the then-existing well spacing pattern for such source of supply.

The provisions of this Article shall have no application whatsoever to the drilling of the initial well described in Article VI.A. except (a) as to Article VII.D.1. (Option No. 2), if selected, or (b) as to the reworking, deepening and plugging back of such initial well after it has been drilled to the depth specified in Article VI.A. if it shall thereafter prove to be a dry hole or, if initially completed for production, ceases to produce in paying quantities.

3. Stand By Time: When a well which has been drilled or deepened has reached its authorized depth and all tests have been completed, and the results thereof furnished to the parties, stand-by costs incurred pending response to a party's notice proposing a reworking, deepening, plugging back or completing operation in such a well shall be charged and borne as part of the drilling or deepening operation just completed. Stand-by costs subsequent to all parties responding, or expiration of the response time permitted, whichever first occurs, and prior to agreement as to the participating interests of all Consenting Parties pursuant to the terms of the second grammatical paragraph of Article VI.B.2., shall be charged to and borne as part of the proposed operation, but if the proposal is subsequently withdrawn because of insufficient participation, such stand-by costs shall be allocated between the Consenting Parties in the proportion each Consenting Party's interest as shown on Exhibit "A" bears to the total interest as shown on Exhibit "A" of all Consenting Parties.

4. Sidetracking: Except as hereinafter provided, those provisions of this agreement applicable to a "deepening" operation shall also be applicable to any proposal to directionally control and intentionally deviate a well from vertical so as to change the bottom hole location (herein called "sidetracking"), unless done to straighten the hole or to drill around junk in the hole or because of other mechanical difficulties. Any party having the right to participate in a proposed sidetracking operation that does not own an interest in the affected well bore at the time of the notice shall, upon electing to participate, tender to the well bore owners its proportionate share (equal to its interest in the sidetracking operation) of the value of that portion of the existing well bore to be utilized as follows:

(a) If the proposal is for sidetracking an existing dry hole, reimbursement shall be on the basis of the actual costs incurred in the initial drilling of the well down to the depth at which the sidetracking operation is initiated.

(b) If the proposal is for sidetracking a well which has previously produced, reimbursement shall be on the basis of the well's salvageable materials and equipment down to the depth at which the sidetracking operation is initiated, determined in accordance with the provisions of Exhibit "C", less the estimated cost of salvaging and the estimated cost of plugging and abandoning.

In the event that notice for a sidetracking operation is given while the drilling rig to be utilized is on location, the response period shall be limited to forty-eight (48) hours, exclusive of Saturday, Sunday and legal holidays; provided, however, any party may request and receive up to eight (8) additional days after expiration of the forty-eight (48) hours within which to respond by paying for all stand-by time incurred during such extended response period. If more than one party elects to take such additional time to respond to the notice, stand-by costs shall be allocated between the parties taking additional time to respond on a day-to-day basis in the proportion each electing party's interest as shown on Exhibit "A" bears to the total interest as shown on Exhibit "A" of all the electing parties. In all other instances the response period to a proposal for sidetracking shall be limited to thirty (30) days.

## C. TAKING PRODUCTION IN KIND:

Each party shall take in kind or separately dispose of its proportionate share of all oil and gas produced from the Contract Area, exclusive of production which may be used in development and producing operations and in preparing and treating oil and gas for marketing purposes and production unavoidably lost. Any extra expenditure incurred in the taking in kind or separate disposition by any party of its proportionate share of the production shall be borne by such party. Any party taking its share of production in kind shall be

## ARTICLE VI

## continued

1 required to pay for only its proportionate share of such part of Operator's surface facilities which it uses.

2  
3 Each party shall execute such division orders and contracts as may be necessary for the sale of its interest in production from  
4 the Contract Area, and, except as provided in Article VII.B., shall be entitled to receive payment directly from the purchaser thereof for  
5 its share of all production.

6  
7 In the event any party shall fail to make the arrangements necessary to take in kind or separately dispose of its proportionate share of  
8 the oil produced from the Contract Area, Operator shall have the right, subject to the revocation at will by the party owning it, but not  
9 the obligation, to purchase such oil or sell it to others at any time and from time to time, for the account of the non-taking party at the  
10 best price obtainable in the area for such production. Any such purchase or sale by Operator shall be subject always to the right of the  
11 owner of the production to exercise at any time its right to take in kind, or separately dispose of, its share of all oil not previously  
12 delivered to a purchaser. Any purchase or sale by Operator of any other party's share of oil shall be only for such reasonable periods of  
13 time as are consistent with the minimum needs of the industry under the particular circumstances, but in no event for a period in excess  
14 of one (1) year.

15  
16 In the event one or more parties' separate disposition of its share of the gas causes split-stream deliveries to separate pipelines and/or  
17 deliveries which on a day-to-day basis for any reason are not exactly equal to a party's respective proportionate share of total gas sales to  
18 be allocated to it, the balancing or accounting between the respective accounts of the parties shall be in accordance with any gas balancing  
19 agreement between the parties hereto, whether such an agreement is attached as Exhibit "E", or is a separate agreement.

20  
21 D. Access to Contract Area and Information:

22  
23 Each party shall have access to the Contract Area at all reasonable times, at its sole cost and risk to inspect or observe operations,  
24 and shall have access at reasonable times to information pertaining to the development or operation thereof, including Operator's books  
25 and records relating thereto. Operator, upon request, shall furnish each of the other parties with copies of all forms or reports filed with  
26 governmental agencies, daily drilling reports, well logs, tank tables, daily gauge and run tickets and reports of stock on hand at the first of  
27 each month, and shall make available samples of any cores or cuttings taken from any well drilled on the Contract Area. The cost of  
28 gathering and furnishing information to Non-Operator, other than that specified above, shall be charged to the Non-Operator that re-  
29 quests the information.

30  
31 E. Abandonment of Wells:

32  
33 1. Abandonment of Dry Holes: Except for any well drilled or deepened pursuant to Article VI.B.2., any well which has been  
34 drilled or deepened under the terms of this agreement and is proposed to be completed as a dry hole shall not be plugged and abandoned  
35 without the consent of all parties. Should Operator, after diligent effort, be unable to contact any party, or should any party fail to reply  
36 within forty eight (48) hours (exclusive of Saturday, Sunday and legal holidays) after receipt of notice of the proposal to plug and abandon  
37 such well, such party shall be deemed to have consented to the proposed abandonment. All such wells shall be plugged and abandoned in  
38 accordance with applicable regulations and at the cost, risk and expense of the parties who participated in the cost of drilling or deepening  
39 such well. Any party who objects to plugging and abandoning such well shall have the right to take over the well and conduct further  
40 operations in search of oil and/or gas subject to the provisions of Article VI B.

41  
42 2. Abandonment of Wells that have Produced: Except for any well in which a Non-Consent operation has been conducted  
43 hereunder for which the Consenting Parties have not been fully reimbursed as herein provided, any well which has been completed as a  
44 producer shall not be plugged and abandoned without the consent of all parties. If all parties consent to such abandonment, the well shall  
45 be plugged and abandoned in accordance with applicable regulations and at the cost, risk and expense of all the parties hereto. If, within  
46 thirty (30) days after receipt of notice of the proposed abandonment of any well, all parties do not agree to the abandonment of such well,  
47 those wishing to continue its operation from the interval(s) of the formation(s) then open to production shall tender to each of the other  
48 parties its proportionate share of the value of the well's salvageable material and equipment, determined in accordance with the provisions of  
49 Exhibit "C", less the estimated cost of salvaging and the estimated cost of plugging and abandoning. Each abandoning party shall assign  
50 the non-abandoning parties, without warranty, express or implied, as to title or as to quantity, or fitness for use of the equipment and  
51 material, all of its interest in the well and related equipment, together with its interest in the leasehold estate as to, but only as to, the in-  
52 terval or intervals of the formation or formations then open to production. If the interest of the abandoning party is or includes an oil and  
53 gas interest, such party shall execute and deliver to the non-abandoning party or parties an oil and gas lease, limited to the interval or in-  
54 tervals of the formation or formations then open to production, for a term of one (1) year and so long thereafter as oil and/or gas is pro-  
55 duced from the interval or intervals of the formation or formations covered thereby, such lease to be on the form attached as Exhibit



ARTICLE VI  
continued

"B". The assignments or leases so limited shall encompass the "drilling unit" upon which the well is located. The payments by, and the assignments or leases to, the assignees shall be in a ratio based upon the relationship of their respective percentage of participation in the Contract Area to the aggregate of the percentages of participation in the Contract Area of all assignees. There shall be no readjustment of interests in the remaining portion of the Contract Area.

Thereafter, abandoning parties shall have no further responsibility, liability, or interest in the operation of or production from the well in the interval or intervals then open other than the royalties retained in any lease made under the terms of this Article. Upon request, Operator shall continue to operate the assigned well for the account of the non abandoning parties at the rates and charges contemplated by this agreement, plus any additional cost and charges which may arise as the result of the separate ownership of the assigned well. Upon proposed abandonment of the producing interval(s) assigned or leased, the assignor or lessor shall then have the option to repurchase its prior interest in the well (using the same valuation formula) and participate in further operations therein subject to the provisions hereof.

3. Abandonment of Non-Consent Operations: The provisions of Article VI.E.1. or VI.E.2. above shall be applicable as between Consenting Parties in the event of the proposed abandonment of any well excepted from said Articles; provided, however, no well shall be permanently plugged and abandoned unless and until all parties having the right to conduct further operations therein have been notified of the proposed abandonment and afforded the opportunity to elect to take over the well in accordance with the provisions of this Article VI.E.

ARTICLE VII.  
EXPENDITURES AND LIABILITY OF PARTIES

## A. Liability of Parties:

The liability of the parties shall be several, not joint or collective. Each party shall be responsible only for its obligations, and shall be liable only for its proportionate share of the costs of developing and operating the Contract Area. Accordingly, the liens granted among the parties in Article VII.B. are given to secure only the debts of each severally. It is not the intention of the parties to create, nor shall this agreement be construed as creating, a mining or other partnership or association, or to render the parties liable as partners.

## B. Liens and Payment Defaults:

Each Non Operator grants to Operator a lien upon its oil and gas rights in the Contract Area, and a security interest in its share of oil and/or gas when extracted and its interest in all equipment, to secure payment of its share of expense, together with interest thereon at the rate provided in Exhibit "C". To the extent that Operator has a security interest under the Uniform Commercial Code of the state, Operator shall be entitled to exercise the rights and remedies of a secured party under the Code. The bringing of a suit and the obtaining of judgment by Operator for the secured indebtedness shall not be deemed an election of remedies or otherwise affect the lien rights or security interest as security for the payment thereof. In addition, upon default by any Non Operator in the payment of its share of expense, Operator shall have the right, without prejudice to other rights or remedies, to collect from the purchaser the proceeds from the sale of such Non Operator's share of oil and/or gas until the amount owed by such Non Operator, plus interest, has been paid. Each purchaser shall be entitled to rely upon Operator's written statement concerning the amount of any default. Operator grants a like lien and security interest to the Non Operators to secure payment of Operator's proportionate share of expense.

~~If any party fails or is unable to pay its share of expense within sixty (60) days after rendition of a statement therefor by Operator, the non defaulting parties, including Operator, shall, upon request by Operator, pay the unpaid amount in the proportion that the interest of each such party bears to the interest of all such parties. Each party so paying its share of the unpaid amount shall, to obtain reimbursement thereof, be subrogated to the security rights described in the foregoing paragraph.~~

## C. Payments and Accounting:

Except as herein otherwise specifically provided, Operator shall promptly pay and discharge expenses incurred in the development and operation of the Contract Area pursuant to this agreement and shall charge each of the parties hereto with their respective proportionate shares upon the expense basis provided in Exhibit "C". Operator shall keep an accurate record of the joint account hereunder, showing expenses incurred and charges and credits made and received.

Operator, at its election, shall have the right from time to time to demand and receive from the other parties payment in advance of their respective shares of the estimated amount of the expense to be incurred in operations hereunder during the next succeeding month, which right may be exercised only by submission to each such party of an itemized statement of such estimated expense, together with an invoice for its share thereof. Each such statement and invoice for the payment in advance of estimated expense shall be submitted on or before the 20th day of the next preceding month. Each party shall pay to Operator its proportionate share of such estimate within fifteen (15) days after such estimate and invoice is received. If any party fails to pay its share of said estimate within said time, the amount due shall bear interest as provided in Exhibit "C" until paid. Proper adjustment shall be made monthly between advances and actual expense to the end that each party shall bear and pay its proportionate share of actual expenses incurred, and no more.

## D. Limitation of Expenditures:

1. Drill or Deepen: Without the consent of all parties, no well shall be drilled or deepened, except any well drilled or deepened pursuant to the provisions of Article VI.B.2. of this agreement. Consent to the drilling or deepening shall include:



ARTICLE VII  
continued

☐ Option No. 1: All necessary expenditures for the drilling or deepening, testing, completing and equipping of the well, including necessary tankage and/or surface facilities.

☒ Option No. 2: All necessary expenditures for the drilling or deepening and testing of the well. When such well has reached its authorized depth, and all tests have been completed, and the results thereof furnished to the parties, Operator shall give immediate notice to the Non-Operators who have the right to participate in the completion costs. The parties receiving such notice shall have forty eight (48) hours (exclusive of Saturday, Sunday and legal holidays) in which to elect to participate in the setting of casing and the completion attempt. Such election, when made, shall include consent to all necessary expenditures for the completing and equipping of such well, including necessary tankage and/or surface facilities. Failure of any party receiving such notice to reply within the period above fixed shall constitute an election by that party not to participate in the cost of the completion attempt. If one or more, but less than all of the parties, elect to set pipe and to attempt a completion, the provisions of Article VI.B.2. hereof (the phrase "reworking, deepening or plugging back" as contained in Article VI.B.2. shall be deemed to include "completing") shall apply to the operations thereafter conducted by less than all parties.

2. Rework or Plug Back: Without the consent of all parties, no well shall be reworked or plugged back except a well reworked or plugged back pursuant to the provisions of Article VI.B.2. of this agreement. Consent to the reworking or plugging back of a well shall include all necessary expenditures in conducting such operations and completing and equipping of said well, including necessary tankage and/or surface facilities.

3. Other Operations: Without the consent of all parties, Operator shall not undertake any single project reasonably estimated to require an expenditure in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$ 25,000.00 ) except in connection with a well, the drilling, reworking, deepening, completing, recompleting, or plugging back of which has been previously authorized by or pursuant to this agreement; provided, however, that, in case of explosion, fire, flood or other sudden emergency, whether of the same or different nature, Operator may take such steps and incur such expenses as in its opinion are required to deal with the emergency to safeguard life and property but Operator, as promptly as possible, shall report the emergency to the other parties. If Operator prepares an authority for expenditure (AFE) for its own use, Operator shall furnish any Non Operator so requesting an information copy thereof for any single project costing in excess of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$ 10,000.00 ) but less than the amount first set forth above in this paragraph.

#### E. Rentals, Shut-in Well Payments and Minimum Royalties:

Rentals, shut-in well payments and minimum royalties which may be required under the terms of any lease shall be paid by the party or parties who subjected such lease to this agreement at its or their expense. In the event two or more parties own and have contributed interests in the same lease to this agreement, such parties may designate one of such parties to make said payments for and on behalf of all such parties. Any party may request, and shall be entitled to receive, proper evidence of all such payments. In the event of failure to make proper payment of any rental, shut-in well payment or minimum royalty through mistake or oversight where such payment is required to continue the lease in force, any loss which results from such non-payment shall be borne in accordance with the provisions of Article IV.B.2.

Operator shall notify Non Operator of the anticipated completion of a shut in gas well, or the shutting in or return to production of a producing gas well, at least five (5) days (excluding Saturday, Sunday and legal holidays), or at the earliest opportunity permitted by circumstances, prior to taking such action, but assumes no liability for failure to do so. In the event of failure by Operator to so notify Non Operator, the loss of any lease contributed hereto by Non Operator for failure to make timely payments of any shut in well payment shall be borne jointly by the parties hereto under the provisions of Article IV.B.3.

#### F. Taxes:

Beginning with the first calendar year after the effective date hereof, Operator shall render for ad valorem taxation all property subject to this agreement which by law should be rendered for such taxes, and it shall pay all such taxes assessed thereon before they become delinquent. Prior to the rendition date, each Non-Operator shall furnish Operator information as to burdens (to include, but not be limited to, royalties, overriding royalties and production payments) on leases and oil and gas interests contributed by such Non Operator. If the assessed valuation of any leasehold estate is reduced by reason of its being subject to outstanding excess royalties, overriding royalties or production payments, the reduction in ad valorem taxes resulting therefrom shall inure to the benefit of the owner or owners of such leasehold estate, and Operator shall adjust the charge to such owner or owners so as to reflect the benefit of such reduction. If the ad valorem taxes are based in whole or in part upon separate valuations of each party's working interest, then notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, charges to the joint account shall be made and paid by the parties hereto in accordance with the tax value generated by each party's working interest. Operator shall bill the other parties for their proportionate shares of all tax payments in the manner provided in Exhibit "C".

If Operator considers any tax assessment improper, Operator may, at its discretion, protest within the time and manner prescribed by law, and prosecute the protest to a final determination, unless all parties agree to abandon the protest prior to final determination. During the pendency of administrative or judicial proceedings, Operator may elect to pay, under protest, all such taxes and any interest and penalty. When any such protested assessment shall have been finally determined, Operator shall pay the tax for the joint account, together with any interest and penalty accrued, and the total cost shall then be assessed against the parties, and be paid by them, as provided in Exhibit "C".

Each party shall pay or cause to be paid all production, severance, excise, gathering and other taxes imposed upon or with respect to the production or handling of such party's share of oil and/or gas produced under the terms of this agreement.

## ARTICLE VII

## continued

## G. Insurance:

At all times while operations are conducted hereunder, Operator shall comply with the workmen's compensation law of the state where the operations are being conducted; provided, however, that Operator may be a self-insurer for liability under said compensation laws in which event the only charge that shall be made to the joint account shall be as provided in Exhibit "C". Operator shall also carry or provide insurance for the benefit of the joint account of the parties as outlined in Exhibit "D", attached to and made a part hereof. Operator shall require all contractors engaged in work on or for the Contract Area to comply with the workmen's compensation law of the state where the operations are being conducted and to maintain such other insurance as Operator may require.

In the event automobile public liability insurance is specified in said Exhibit "D", or subsequently receives the approval of the parties, no direct charge shall be made by Operator for premiums paid for such insurance for Operator's automotive equipment.

## ARTICLE VIII.

## ACQUISITION, MAINTENANCE OR TRANSFER OF INTEREST

## A. Surrender of Leases:

The leases covered by this agreement, insofar as they embrace acreage in the Contract Area, shall not be surrendered in whole or in part unless all parties consent thereto.

However, should any party desire to surrender its interest in any lease or in any portion thereof, and the other parties do not agree or consent thereto, the party desiring to surrender shall assign, without express or implied warranty of title, all of its interest in such lease, or portion thereof, and any well, material and equipment which may be located thereon and any rights in production thereafter secured, to the parties not consenting to such surrender. If the interest of the assigning party is or includes an oil and gas interest, the assigning party shall execute and deliver to the party or parties not consenting to such surrender an oil and gas lease covering such oil and gas interest for a term of one (1) year and so long thereafter as oil and/or gas is produced from the land covered thereby, such lease to be on the form attached hereto as Exhibit "B". Upon such assignment or lease, the assigning party shall be relieved from all obligations thereafter accruing, but not theretofore accrued, with respect to the interest assigned or leased and the operation of any well attributable thereto, and the assigning party shall have no further interest in the assigned or leased premises and its equipment and production other than the royalties retained in any lease made under the terms of this Article. The party assignee or lessee shall pay to the party assignor or lessor the reasonable salvage value of the latter's interest in any wells and equipment attributable to the assigned or leased acreage. The value of all material shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of Exhibit "C", less the estimated cost of salvaging and the estimated cost of plugging and abandoning. If the assignment or lease is in favor of more than one party, the interest shall be shared by such parties in the proportions that the interest of each bears to the total interest of all such parties.

Any assignment, lease or surrender made under this provision shall not reduce or change the assignor's, lessor's or surrendering party's interest as it was immediately before the assignment, lease or surrender in the balance of the Contract Area; and the acreage assigned, leased or surrendered, and subsequent operations thereon, shall not thereafter be subject to the terms and provisions of this agreement.

## B. Renewal or Extension of Leases:

If any party secures a renewal of any oil and gas lease subject to this agreement, all other parties shall be notified promptly, and shall have the right for a period of thirty (30) days following receipt of such notice in which to elect to participate in the ownership of the renewal lease, insofar as such lease affects lands within the Contract Area, by paying to the party who acquired it their several proper proportionate shares of the acquisition cost allocated to that part of such lease within the Contract Area, which shall be in proportion to the interests held at that time by the parties in the Contract Area.

If some, but less than all, of the parties elect to participate in the purchase of a renewal lease, it shall be owned by the parties who elect to participate therein, in a ratio based upon the relationship of their respective percentage of participation in the Contract Area to the aggregate of the percentages of participation in the Contract Area of all parties participating in the purchase of such renewal lease. Any renewal lease in which less than all parties elect to participate shall not be subject to this agreement.

Each party who participates in the purchase of a renewal lease shall be given an assignment of its proportionate interest therein by the acquiring party.

The provisions of this Article shall apply to renewal leases whether they are for the entire interest covered by the expiring lease or cover only a portion of its area or an interest therein. Any renewal lease taken before the expiration of its predecessor lease, or taken or contracted for within six (6) months after the expiration of the existing lease shall be subject to this provision; but any lease taken or contracted for more than six (6) months after the expiration of an existing lease shall not be deemed a renewal lease and shall not be subject to the provisions of this agreement.

The provisions in this Article shall also be applicable to extensions of oil and gas leases.

## C. Acreage or Cash Contributions:

While this agreement is in force, if any party contracts for a contribution of cash towards the drilling of a well or any other operation on the Contract Area, such contribution shall be paid to the party who conducted the drilling or other operation and shall be applied by it against the cost of such drilling or other operation. If the contribution be in the form of acreage, the party to whom the contribution is made shall promptly tender an assignment of the acreage, without warranty of title, to the Drilling Parties in the proportions

ARTICLE VIII  
continued

1 said Drilling Parties shared the cost of drilling the well. Such acreage shall become a separate Contract Area and, to the extent possible, be  
2 governed by provisions identical to this agreement. Each party shall promptly notify all other parties of any acreage or cash contributions  
3 it may obtain in support of any well or any other operation on the Contract Area. The above provisions shall also be applicable to op-  
4 tional rights to earn acreage outside the Contract Area which are in support of a well drilled inside the Contract Area.

6 If any party contracts for any consideration relating to disposition of such party's share of substances produced hereunder, such  
7 consideration shall not be deemed a contribution as contemplated in this Article VIII.C.

## D. Maintenance of Uniform Interest:

11 For the purpose of maintaining uniformity of ownership in the oil and gas leasehold interests covered by this agreement, no  
12 party shall sell, encumber, transfer or make other disposition of its interest in the leases embraced within the Contract Area and in wells,  
13 equipment and production unless such disposition covers either:

- 15 1. the entire interest of the party in all leases and equipment and production; or
- 17 2. an equal undivided interest in all leases and equipment and production in the Contract Area.

19 Every such sale, encumbrance, transfer or other disposition made by any party shall be made expressly subject to this agreement  
20 and shall be made without prejudice to the right of the other parties.

22 If, at any time the interest of any party is divided among and owned by four or more co-owners, Operator, at its discretion, may  
23 require such co-owners to appoint a single trustee or agent with full authority to receive notices, approve expenditures, receive billings for  
24 and approve and pay such party's share of the joint expenses, and to deal generally with, and with power to bind, the co-owners of such  
25 party's interest within the scope of the operations embraced in this agreement; however, all such co-owners shall have the right to enter  
26 into and execute all contracts or agreements for the disposition of their respective shares of the oil and gas produced from the Contract  
27 Area and they shall have the right to receive, separately, payment of the sale proceeds thereof.

## E. Waiver of Rights to Partition:

31 If permitted by the laws of the state or states in which the property covered hereby is located, each party hereto owning an  
32 undivided interest in the Contract Area waives any and all rights it may have to partition and have set aside to it in severalty its undivided  
33 interest therein.

~~F. Preferential Right to Purchase:~~

37 ~~Should any party desire to sell all or any part of its interests under this agreement, or its rights and interests in the Contract~~  
38 ~~Area, it shall promptly give written notice to the other parties, with full information concerning its proposed sale, which shall include the~~  
39 ~~name and address of the prospective purchaser (who must be ready, willing and able to purchase), the purchase price, and all other terms~~  
40 ~~of the offer. The other parties shall then have an optional prior right, for a period of ten (10) days after receipt of the notice, to purchase~~  
41 ~~on the same terms and conditions the interest which the other party proposes to sell; and, if this optional right is exercised, the purchas-~~  
42 ~~ing parties shall share the purchased interest in the proportions that the interest of each bears to the total interest of all purchasing parties.~~  
43 ~~However, there shall be no preferential right to purchase in those cases where any party wishes to mortgage its interests, or to~~  
44 ~~dispose of its interests by merger, reorganization, consolidation, or sale of all or substantially all of its assets to a subsidiary or parent com-~~  
45 ~~pany or to a subsidiary of a parent company, or to any company in which any one party owns a majority of the stock.~~

## ARTICLE IX.

## INTERNAL REVENUE CODE ELECTION

50 This agreement is not intended to create, and shall not be construed to create, a relationship of partnership or an association  
51 for profit between or among the parties hereto. Notwithstanding any provision herein that the rights and liabilities hereunder are several  
52 and not joint or collective, or that this agreement and operations hereunder shall not constitute a partnership, if, for federal income tax  
53 purposes, this agreement and the operations hereunder are regarded as a partnership, each party hereby affected elects to be excluded  
54 from the application of all of the provisions of Subchapter "K", Chapter 1, Subtitle "A", of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as per-  
55 mitted and authorized by Section 761 of the Code and the regulations promulgated thereunder. Operator is authorized and directed to ex-  
56 ecute on behalf of each party hereby affected such evidence of this election as may be required by the Secretary of the Treasury of the  
57 United States or the Federal Internal Revenue Service, including specifically, but not by way of limitation, all of the returns, statements,  
58 and the data required by Federal Regulations 1.761. Should there be any requirement that each party hereby affected give further  
59 evidence of this election, each such party shall execute such documents and furnish such other evidence as may be required by the  
60 Federal Internal Revenue Service or as may be necessary to evidence this election. No such party shall give any notices or take any other  
61 action inconsistent with the election made hereby. If any present or future income tax laws of the state or states in which the Contract  
62 Area is located or any future income tax laws of the United States contain provisions similar to those in Subchapter "K", Chapter 1,  
63 Subtitle "A", of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, under which an election similar to that provided by Section 761 of the Code is per-  
64 mitted, each party hereby affected shall make such election as may be permitted or required by such laws. In making the foregoing elec-  
65 tion, each such party states that the income derived by such party from operations hereunder can be adequately determined without the  
66 computation of partnership taxable income.



ARTICLE X.  
CLAIMS AND LAWSUITS

Operator may settle any single uninsured third party damage claim or suit arising from operations hereunder if the expenditure does not exceed Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$ 15,000.00 ) and if the payment is in complete settlement of such claim or suit. If the amount required for settlement exceeds the above amount, the parties hereto shall assume and take over the further handling of the claim or suit, unless such authority is delegated to Operator. All costs and expenses of handling, settling, or otherwise discharging such claim or suit shall be at the joint expense of the parties participating in the operation from which the claim or suit arises. If a claim is made against any party or if any party is sued on account of any matter arising from operations hereunder over which such individual has no control because of the rights given Operator by this agreement, such party shall immediately notify all other parties, and the claim or suit shall be treated as any other claim or suit involving operations hereunder.

ARTICLE XI.  
FORCE MAJEURE

If any party is rendered unable, wholly or in part, by force majeure to carry out its obligations under this agreement, other than the obligation to make money payments, that party shall give to all other parties prompt written notice of the force majeure with reasonably full particulars concerning it; thereupon, the obligations of the party giving the notice, so far as they are affected by the force majeure, shall be suspended during, but no longer than, the continuance of the force majeure. The affected party shall use all reasonable diligence to remove the force majeure situation as quickly as practicable.

The requirement that any force majeure shall be remedied with all reasonable dispatch shall not require the settlement of strikes, lockouts, or other labor difficulty by the party involved, contrary to its wishes; how all such difficulties shall be handled shall be entirely within the discretion of the party concerned.

The term "force majeure", as here employed, shall mean an act of God, strike, lockout, or other industrial disturbance, act of the public enemy, war, blockade, public riot, lightning, fire, storm, flood, explosion, governmental action, governmental delay, restraint or inaction, unavailability of equipment, and any other cause, whether of the kind specifically enumerated above or otherwise, which is not reasonably within the control of the party claiming suspension.

ARTICLE XII.  
NOTICES

All notices authorized or required between the parties and required by any of the provisions of this agreement, unless otherwise specifically provided, shall be given in writing by mail or telegram, postage or charges prepaid, or by telex or telecopier and addressed to the parties to whom the notice is given at the addresses listed on Exhibit "A". The originating notice given under any provision hereof shall be deemed given only when received by the party to whom such notice is directed, and the time for such party to give any notice in response thereto shall run from the date the originating notice is received. The second or any responsive notice shall be deemed given when deposited in the mail or with the telegraph company, with postage or charges prepaid, or sent by telex or telecopier. Each party shall have the right to change its address at any time, and from time to time, by giving written notice thereof to all other parties.

ARTICLE XIII.  
TERM OF AGREEMENT

This agreement shall remain in full force and effect as to the oil and gas leases and/or oil and gas interests subject hereto for the period of time selected below; provided, however, no party hereto shall ever be construed as having any right, title or interest in or to any lease or oil and gas interest contributed by any other party beyond the term of this agreement.

☐ Option No. 1: So long as any of the oil and gas leases subject to this agreement remain or are continued in force as to any part of the Contract Area, whether by production, extension, renewal or otherwise.

☒ Option No. 2: In the event the well described in Article VI.A., or any subsequent well drilled under any provision of this agreement, results in production of oil and/or gas in paying quantities, this agreement shall continue in force so long as any such well or wells produce, or are capable of production, and for an additional period of 90 days from cessation of all production; provided, however, if, prior to the expiration of such additional period, one or more of the parties hereto are engaged in drilling, reworking, deepening, plugging back, testing or attempting to complete a well or wells hereunder, this agreement shall continue in force until such operations have been completed and if production results therefrom, this agreement shall continue in force as provided herein. In the event the well described in Article VI.A., or any subsequent well drilled hereunder, results in a dry hole, and no other well is producing, or capable of producing oil and/or gas from the Contract Area, this agreement shall terminate unless drilling, deepening, plugging back or reworking operations are commenced within 90 days from the date of abandonment of said well.

It is agreed, however, that the termination of this agreement shall not relieve any party hereto from any liability which has accrued or attached prior to the date of such termination.

ARTICLE XIV.  
COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS

A. Laws, Regulations and Orders:

This agreement shall be subject to the conservation laws of the state in which the Contract Area is located, to the valid rules, regulations, and orders of any duly constituted regulatory body of said state; and to all other applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, and orders.

B. Governing Law:

This agreement and all matters pertaining hereto, including, but not limited to, matters of performance, non-performance, breach, remedies, procedures, rights, duties and interpretation or construction, shall be governed and determined by the law of the state in which the Contract Area is located. If the Contract Area is in two or more states, the law of the state of \_\_\_\_\_ shall govern.

C. Regulatory Agencies:

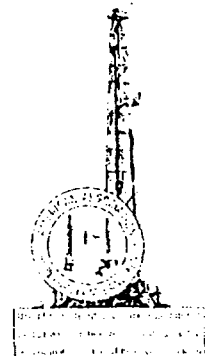
Nothing herein contained shall grant, or be construed to grant, Operator the right or authority to waive or release any rights, privileges, or obligations which Non-Operators may have under federal or state laws or under rules, regulations or orders promulgated under such laws in reference to oil, gas and mineral operations, including the location, operation, or production of wells, on tracts offsetting or adjacent to the Contract Area.

With respect to operations hereunder, Non-Operators agree to release Operator from any and all losses, damages, injuries, claims and causes of action arising out of, incident to or resulting directly or indirectly from Operator's interpretation or application of rules, rulings, regulations or orders of the Department of Energy or predecessor or successor agencies to the extent such interpretation or application was made in good faith. Each Non-Operator further agrees to reimburse Operator for any amounts applicable to such Non-Operator's share of production that Operator may be required to refund, rebate or pay as a result of such an incorrect interpretation or application, together with interest and penalties thereon owing by Operator as a result of such incorrect interpretation or application.

Non-Operators authorize Operator to prepare and submit such documents as may be required to be submitted to the purchaser of any crude oil sold hereunder or to any other person or entity pursuant to the requirements of the "Crude Oil Windfall Profit Tax Act of 1980", as same may be amended from time to time ("Act"), and any valid regulations or rules which may be issued by the Treasury Department from time to time pursuant to said Act. Each party hereto agrees to furnish any and all certifications or other information which is required to be furnished by said Act in a timely manner and in sufficient detail to permit compliance with said Act.

ARTICLE XV.  
OTHER PROVISIONS

SEE PAGES 14a, 14b, & 14c ATTACHED:



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ARTICLE XV.

OTHER PROVISIONS

The following provisions are intended to be cumulative, but in the event they conflict with the other provisions herein, then the following provisions shall control:

A. Definition of "holidays": The word "holidays" when used herein is defined as a legal holiday observed by National Banking Associations in Midland, Texas.

"Back-in after Payout": Upon payout of each well drilled hereunder, on a well by well basis, Fuel Products, Inc., Ameristate Oil & Gas, Inc. and Louis Mazzullo, Inc. (hereinafter collectively referred to herein as "FPI"), shall collectively be entitled to an additional twenty-five percent (25%) working interest in each such well, proportionately reduced to the ninety-five percent (95%) interest of TMBR/Sharp Drilling, Inc. ("TMBR") hereunder (such back-in being an undivided twenty-three and seventy-five hundredths percent (23.75%) working interest in each such well as Payout occurs therein). If any of the parties comprising "FPI" elects not to receive its proportionate share of such back-in, each of the other such parties who desire to receive such back-in shall be entitled to the entire back-in in such well. For the purposes of this Agreement, "Payout" for each well drilled hereunder, shall occur at that point in time at which there is recouped out of the production (or other value received) which is attributable to the interest credited to TMBR in Exhibit "A" hereto (after deducting therefrom all royalties, overriding royalty interests and applicable severance, production, excise and gathering taxes) all costs incurred in drilling, completing, equipping and operating such well to the point in time that Payout occurs. The accounting procedure attached as Exhibit "C" hereto shall be used in determining payout on each well. TMBR/Sharp Drilling, Inc. et al (collectively "TMBR") shall give notification to FPI of the date said well(s) has paid out. Payout shall, for the purpose of this agreement, be deemed to have occurred at 8:00 a.m. on the day next following the date the well(s) actually pays out. Should FPI elect to back-in for said additional working interest, it will thereafter share proportionately the cost of operating, repairing and recompleting the well(s) and shall bear its proportionate part of any overriding royalty burdening the lease included within the producing unit formed for the well(s), it being clearly understood, however, that in no event shall FPI be liable for any drilling, completing, recompleting, equipping or operating cost incurred by or for TMBR's account prior to the time of payout of each well.

B In the event one or more of the parties hereto shall elect as follows:

1. not to pay a delay rental;
2. to abandon a lease; or
3. not to participate in a necessary well as defined in Article XV.N; and assigns its interest in a lease, or portion thereof, to and for the benefit of the participating parties hereto, or if some, but not all, of the parties hereto elect to acquire an interest in a lease or a contract affecting a lease pursuant to the provisions of Article XV.F., it is agreed that the lands covered by the contract rights shall no longer be subject to this agreement. In such event the lease or contract rights and the lands covered thereby shall be deemed to be subject to an operating agreement identical to this agreement changed only to reflect the proper owners and percentages and, if the parties so desire, to designate a new operator if the operator under this agreement is not a co-owner.

C. Dispute re: Proposed Depth: If during the drilling of any well being drilled hereunder other than the Initial Well provided for in Article VI.A., a bona fide dispute shall exist as to whether the proposed depth has been reached in such well (as for example, whether a well has been drilled to a depth sufficient to test a particular sand or formation or if the well has reached the stratigraphic equivalent of a particular depth), the opinion of the majority in interest, and not in numbers, of the owners as shown on Exhibit "A" shall control and be binding upon all parties. If the parties are equally divided, the opinion of the Operator will prevail.

D. Payment Obligations: All rentals, shut-in well payments and minimum royalties which may be required under the terms of any lease shall be administered and paid by Operator and charged to the Joint Account except where otherwise expressly provided to the contrary in this agreement. Any party may request and shall be entitled to receive proper evidence of all such payments. Operator shall make or cause to be made proper payment of any rentals and shut-in well payments and minimum royalties under the foregoing provisions.

Operator shall notify each Non-Operator of its recommendation concerning the payment of delay rentals or shut-in royalties under any leases as they may fall due in writing at least forty-five (45) days in advance of the day when such payment is due. Each Non-Operator shall have fifteen (15) days from the receipt of such notice to respond to such recommendation with payment, and failure by Non-Operator shall be deemed an election by Non-Operator to concur with Operator's recommendation. Operator will be responsible for non-payment of delay rentals or shut-in royalties only if its actions constitute gross negligence or willful misconduct.

1 E. Acquisition of Leasehold Interest: Any party acquiring a new lease within the Contract Area shall  
2 furnish the other party or parties actual copies of the lease, leases in acquiring said instrument  
3 sufficient to verify the actual consideration for said interest. A plat or exact description of the  
4 location and any other documents pertinent to the other party evaluating the acquiring parties interest.  
5 The non-acquiring parties shall have thirty (30) days following receipt of the aforesaid notice in which  
6 to indicate the preference as to participation in said acquisition by written response to the acquiring  
7 party accompanied by a check covering its share of the acquisition.

8  
9 F. Coincidental Operations: It is agreed by the parties hereto that unless otherwise agreed when any  
10 well provided for in this Agreement is drilling or testing, neither party shall propose the drilling of  
11 an additional well on the contract acreage unless the drilling of a well is necessary to perpetuate the  
12 Lease or for some other reason it is mutually agreed by the parties hereto that an additional well should  
13 be drilled prior to the completion of a well on the contract acreage.

14 G. Expenses Attributable to Transfers: In the event of transfer, sale, encumbrance or other disposition  
15 of interest within the Contract Area which creates the necessity of separate measurement of production,  
16 the party creating the necessity for such measurement shall alone bear the cost of purchase, installation  
17 and operation of such facilities.

18  
19 H. Bankruptcy: If, following the granting of relief under the Bankruptcy Code to any party hereto as  
20 debtor thereunder, this Agreement should be held to be an executory contract within the meaning of 11  
21 U.S.C. Section 365, then the Operator, or (if the Operator is the debtor in bankruptcy) any other party,  
22 shall be entitled to a determination by debtor or any trustee for debtor within thirty (30) days from the  
23 date an order for relief is entered under this Bankruptcy Code as to the rejection or assumption of this  
24 Operating Agreement. In the event of an assumption, Operator or said other party shall be entitled to  
25 adequate assurances as to future performance of debtor's obligation hereunder and the protection of the  
26 interest of all other parties.

27  
28 I. Insurance (Non-Operators): With the exception of minimum limits set by State and Federal regulations  
29 Non Operator(s) may elect not to be covered by any of Operator's insurance coverage provided for the joint  
30 account by providing Operator with written notice and Certificate of Insurance.

31  
32 J. Third Party Services: Regardless of any provision of this Operating Agreement or the Accounting  
33 Procedure to the contrary, the Operator may charge to the Joint Account for the Contract Area for fees  
34 and charges incurred for the outside engineers, geologists, consultants, brokers, title curative work  
35 attorneys, and other third-party services incurred in connection with leases owned by or acquired for the  
36 Joint Account or operations for the benefit of the Joint Account, all to be borne in the proportions  
37 specified on Exhibit "A".

38  
39 K. Metering of Production: If a diversity of the working interest ownership in production from a lease  
40 subject to this agreement occurs as a result of operations by less than all parties pursuant to any  
41 provision of this agreement, it is agreed that the oil and other hydrocarbons produced from the well or  
42 wells completed by the consenting party or parties shall be separately measured by standard metering  
43 equipment to be properly tested periodically for accuracy, and the setting of a separate tank battery will  
44 not be required unless the purchaser of the production or governmental regulatory body having jurisdiction  
45 will not approve metering for separately measuring production.

46  
47 L. Non-Discrimination: In the performance of this Agreement, Operator shall not engage in any conduct  
48 or practice which violates any law, order or regulation prohibiting discrimination against any person by  
49 reason of his or her race, religion, color, sex, national origin, or age; and Operator further agrees to  
50 comply fully with the non-discrimination provisions of Section 202 of Executive Order No. 11246 (30 F.R.  
51 12319), as amended.

52  
53 M. Priority of Operation: Whenever there is more than one proposal in connection with any well subject  
54 to this agreement, such proposals shall be considered and disposed of in the following order or priority:

- 55 1. Drilling the well to its authorized depth or attempting a completion including testing and logging  
56 of such well at such depth shall have first priority over all other operations and proposals;
- 57 2. A proposal to plug back a well shall prevail over a proposal to deepen or to sidetrack such well;  
58 if there is more than one proposal to plug back, the proposal to plug back to the next deepest  
59 prospective interval shall have priority over proposals to plug back to shallower prospective  
60 intervals.
- 61 3. A proposal to sidetrack a well in order to reach the authorized depth shall prevail over a  
62 proposal to deepen;
- 63 4. A proposal to deepen a well shall have last priority; and
- 64 5. Proposals of the same type and to the same depth shall be given precedence in the order in which  
65 they were made.



N. Non-Consent Penalties Applicable Necessary Operations: If during the term of this agreement, a well is required to be drilled, deepened, reworked, plugged back, sidetracked, or recompleted, or any other operation that may be required in order to:

- (1) continue a lease or leases in force and effect;
- (2) maintain a unitized area or any portion thereof in and to any oil and/or gas and other interest which may be owned by a third party or which, failing in such operation, may revert to a third party;
- (3) comply with an order issued by a regulatory body having jurisdiction in the premises, failing in which certain rights would terminate;

such operation shall hereinafter be defined as a "Necessary Operation". Notwithstanding any other provisions contained in this agreement to the contrary, any party electing not to participate in a Necessary Operation which is proposed pursuant to Article VI.B.1. shall forfeit and assign to the participating parties, all of its right, title, and interest in the Contract Area except each well in which such party participated in all operations conducted thereon and the producing formation underlying the proration or spacing unit for each such well. Such forfeiting party's interest shall not be burdened except as authorized hereunder.

O. Subsequently Created Interest: If any party hereto shall create an overriding royalty production payment, net proceeds interest, or other similar interest, subsequent to the effective date of this Agreement, or if such interest was created prior to the effective date hereof but was neither recorded in the county in which the Contract Area is located nor disclosed to all parties hereto at the time of execution hereof (any such interest created under the circumstances herein mentioned shall hereafter be referred to as a "Subsequently Created Interest"), such Subsequently Created Interest shall be specifically subject to all of the terms and provisions of this Agreement, as follows:

- 1). If non-consent operations are conducted pursuant to any provision of this agreement, and the party conducting such operations becomes entitled to receive the production attributable to the interest out of which the subsequently Created Interest is derived, such party shall receive same free and clear of such Subsequently Created Interest. The party creating same shall bear and pay all such Subsequently Created Interest and shall indemnify and hold the other parties hereto harmless from any and all liability resulting therefrom.
- 2). If the owner of the interest from which a Subsequently Created Interest is derived fails to pay, when due, its share of expenses chargeable hereunder, the lien granted the other parties hereto under the provisions of Article VII.B. or under the appropriate state statutes shall cover and affect the Subsequently Created Interest and the rights of the parties shall be the same as if the Subsequently Created Interest had not been created.
- 3). If the owner of the interest from which Subsequently Created Interest is derived (i) elects to abandon a well under the provisions of Article VI.E. hereof, (ii) elects to surrender a lease (or portion thereof) under the provisions of Article VIII.A. hereof, or (iii) elects not to pay rentals attributable to its interest in any lease and thereby is required to assign the lease or that portion or interest therein for which it elects not to pay rentals to those parties paying such rental, any assignment resulting from such election shall be free and clear of the Subsequently Created Interest.
- 4). The owner creating such interest shall indemnify and hold the other parties harmless from any claim or cause of action by the owner of the Subsequently Created Interest.

P. Workover Operations: It is agreed that without the mutual consent of all parties, no workover operations will be conducted under the provisions of Article VI so long as any completion in the well proposed to be worked over is producing in paying quantities.

Q. JOA SUBORDINATE: NOTWITHSTANDING ANYTHING ELSE HEREIN TO THE CONTRARY, THE PROVISIONS OF THE JOINT OPERATING AGREEMENT SHALL NOT CONFLICT WITH THE LETTER AGREEMENT DATED JULY 1, 1998 BETWEEN TMBR/SHARP DRILLING, INC., FUEL PRODUCTS, INC. ET AL. AND THE PARTIES HERETO. THE PROVISIONS OF SAID LETTER AGREEMENT SHALL SUPERSEDE AND HAVE PRECEDENCE OVER THE PROVISIONS HEREOF.

ARTICLE XVI.  
MISCELLANEOUS

This agreement shall be binding upon and shall inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and to their respective heirs, devisees, legal representatives, successors and assigns.

This instrument may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be considered an original for all purposes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this agreement shall be effective as of 1st day of July, 19 98.

OPERATOR

TMBR/SHARP Drilling, Inc.

BY: J. H. Phillips

NON-OPERATORS

FUEL PRODUCTS, INC.

AMERISTATE OIL & GAS, INC.

BY: Thomas M. Beall

Thomas M. Beall, President

BY: Mark K. Nearburg

Mark K. Nearburg, President

LOUIS MAZZULLO, INC.

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Louis J. Mazzullo, President

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AMERISTATE

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P. 01

## A.A.P.L. FORM 610 - MODEL FORM OPERATING AGREEMENT - 1982

ARTICLE XVI.  
MISCELLANEOUS

This agreement shall be binding upon and shall inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and to their respective heirs, devisees, legal representatives, successors and assigns.

This instrument may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be considered an original for all purposes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this agreement shall be effective as of 1st day of July, 1998.

## OPERATOR

TMBR/SHARP Drilling, Inc.

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

## NON-OPERATORS

FUEL PRODUCTS, INC.

AMERISTATE OIL &amp; GAS, INC.

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas M. Scall, PresidentBY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mark K. Nearburg, President

LOUIS MAZZULLO, INC.

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Louis J. Mazzullo, President

# EXHIBIT "A"

Attached to and made a part of that certain Operating Agreement dated July 1, 1998 by and between TMBR/Sharp Drilling, Inc. as "Operator", and Fuel Products, Inc., et al as "Non-Operators".

## I. Identification of lands subject to this agreement:

Section 13: SE/4, Section 24: All, Section 25: NW/4, Township 16 South, Range 35 East, Lea County, New Mexico

## II. Restrictions, if any, as to depths, formations, or substances:

None.

## III. Percentages or fractional interests of Parties to this Agreement:

	Working Interest <u>B.P.O.</u>	Working Interest <u>A.P.O.*</u>
TMBR/SHARP DRILLING, INC.	.950000	0.712500
FUEL PRODUCTS, INC.	.022500	0.1115625
MARK K. NEARBURG	.022500	0.1115625
LOUIS MAZZULLO, INC.	<u>.005000</u>	<u>0.064375</u>
	1.00000	1.00000

\*Back-in after pay-out on a well-by well basis

## IV. Addresses of parties for notice purposes:

TMBR/SHARP Drilling, Inc.  
P. O. Box 10970  
Midland, Texas 79702  
915-699-5050  
915-699-5085 Fax

Fuel Products, Inc. Tax I.D. 73-0951191  
P. O. Box 3098  
Midland, Texas 79702  
915-687-0008  
915-687-0000 Fax

Ameristate Oil & Gas, Inc. Tax I.D. 75-2398302  
1211 W. Texas  
Midland, Texas 79701  
915-683-6679  
915-683-5935 Fax

Louis Mazzullo, Inc. Tax I.D. 85-0444285  
P. O. Box 66657  
Albuquerque, NM 87193-6657

## V.. Schedule of leases:

Date: November 20, 1997  
Lessor: Gladys Chambers, a widow  
Lessee: Ameristate Oil & Gas, Inc.  
Recorded: Volume 845, Page 277  
Description: Section 24: NE/4 NW/4  
Township 16 South, Range 35 East,  
NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico

Date: February 3, 1998  
Lessor: Jones Robinson, Ltd.  
Lessee: Ameristate Oil & Gas, Inc.  
Recorded: Volume 864, Page 257  
Description: Section 24: SE/4  
Township 16 South, Range 35 East,  
NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico

Date: December 2, 1997  
Lessor: Edmund F. Ely  
Lessee: Ameristate Oil & Gas, Inc.  
Recorded: Volume 835, Page 568  
Description: Section 24: NE/4 NE/4  
Township 16 South, Range 35 East,  
NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico

Date: November 15, 1997  
Lessor: Laverne C. Levers  
Lessee: Ameristate Oil & Gas, Inc.  
Recorded: Volume 835, Page 570  
Description: Section 24: NE/4 NE/4  
Township 16 South, Range 35 East,  
NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico

Date: November 15, 1997  
Lessor: Alice Jane Sumruld  
Lessee: Ameristate Oil & Gas, Inc.  
Recorded: Volume 835, Page 566  
Description: Section 24: S/2 NE/4, NE/4 SW/4, S/2 SW/4  
Township 16 South, Range 35 East,  
NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico

Date: November 15, 2000  
Lessor: Alice Jane Sumruld  
Lessee: Ameristate Oil & Gas, Inc.  
Recorded: Volume 872, Page 490  
Description: Section 24: S/2 NE/4, NE/4 SW/4, S/2 SW/4  
Township 16 South, Range 35 East,  
NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico

Date: December 7, 1997  
Lessor: Erma Stokes Hamilton  
Lessee: Ameristate Oil & Gas, Inc.  
Recorded: Volume 827, Page 124  
Description: Insofar only as said lease covers:  
Section 13: SE/4  
Section 24: NW/4 SW/4, NW/4 NE/4  
Section 25: NW/4  
Township 16 South, Range 35 East,  
NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico

Date: December 7, 1997  
Lessor: Madeline Stokes  
Lessee: Ameristate Oil & Gas, Inc.  
Recorded: Volume 827, Page 127  
Description: Insofar as said lease covers:  
Section 13: SE/4  
Section 24: NW/4 SW/4, NW/4 NE/4  
Section 25: NW/4  
Township 16 South, Range 35 East,  
NMPM, Lea County, New Mexico

EXHIBIT

" C "

Attached to and made a part of that certain Operating Agreement dated July 1, 1998, with  
TMBR/Sharp Drilling, Inc. as Operator and Fuel Products, Inc., et al as Non-Operators.

ACCOUNTING PROCEDURE  
JOINT OPERATIONS

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Definitions

"Joint Property" shall mean the real and personal property subject to the agreement to which this Accounting Procedure is attached.

"Joint Operations" shall mean all operations necessary or proper for the development, operation, protection and maintenance of the Joint Property.

"Joint Account" shall mean the account showing the charges paid and credits received in the conduct of the Joint Operations and which are to be shared by the Parties.

"Operator" shall mean the party designated to conduct the Joint Operations.

"Non-Operators" shall mean the Parties to this agreement other than the Operator.

"Parties" shall mean Operator and Non-Operators.

"First Level Supervisors" shall mean those employees whose primary function in Joint Operations is the direct supervision of other employees and/or contract labor directly employed on the Joint Property in a field operating capacity.

"Technical Employees" shall mean those employees having special and specific engineering, geological or other professional skills, and whose primary function in Joint Operations is the handling of specific operating conditions and problems for the benefit of the Joint Property.

"Personal Expenses" shall mean travel and other reasonable reimbursable expenses of Operator's employees.

"Material" shall mean personal property, equipment or supplies acquired or held for use on the Joint Property.

"Controllable Material" shall mean Material which at the time is so classified in the Material Classification Manual as most recently recommended by the Council of Petroleum Accountants Societies.

2. Statement and Billings

Operator shall bill Non-Operators on or before the last day of each month for their proportionate share of the Joint Account for the preceding month. Such bills will be accompanied by statements which identify the authority for expenditure, lease or facility, and all charges and credits summarized by appropriate classifications of investment and expense except that items of Controllable Material and unusual charges and credits shall be separately identified and fully described in detail.

3. Advances and Payments by Non-Operators

A. Unless otherwise provided for in the agreement, the Operator may require the Non Operators to advance their share of estimated cash outlay for the succeeding month's operation within fifteen (15) days after receipt of the billing or by the first day of the month for which the advance is required, whichever is later. Operator shall adjust each monthly billing to reflect advances received from the Non-Operators.

B. Each Non-Operator shall pay its proportion of all bills within fifteen (15) days after receipt. If payment is not made within such time, the unpaid balance shall bear interest monthly at the prime rate in effect at Texas  
Commerce Bank on the first day of the month in which delinquency occurs plus 1% or the maximum contract rate permitted by the applicable usury laws in the state in which the Joint Property is located, whichever is the lesser, plus attorney's fees, court costs, and other costs in connection with the collection of unpaid amounts.

4. Adjustments

Payment of any such bills shall not prejudice the right of any Non-Operator to protest or question the correctness thereof; provided, however, all bills and statements rendered to Non-Operators by Operator during any calendar year shall conclusively be presumed to be true and correct after twenty-four (24) months following the end of any such calendar year, unless within the said twenty-four (24) month period a Non-Operator takes written exception thereto and makes claim on Operator for adjustment. No adjustment favorable to Operator shall be made unless it is made within the same prescribed period. The provisions of this paragraph shall not prevent adjustments resulting from a physical inventory of Controllable Material as provided for in Section V.

5. Audits

A. A Non-Operator, upon notice in writing to Operator and all other Non-Operators, shall have the right to audit Operator's accounts and records relating to the Joint Account for any calendar year within the twenty-four (24) month period following the end of such calendar year; provided, however, the making of an audit shall not extend the time for the taking of written exception to and the adjustments of accounts as provided for in Paragraph 4 of this Section I. Where there are two or more Non-Operators, the Non-Operators shall make every reasonable effort to conduct a joint audit in a manner which will result in a minimum of inconvenience to the Operator. Operator shall bear no portion of the Non-Operators' audit cost incurred under this paragraph unless agreed to by the Operator. The audits shall not be conducted more than once each year without prior approval of Operator, except upon the resignation or removal of the Operator, and shall be made at the expense of those Non-Operators approving such audit.

B. The Operator shall reply in writing to an audit report within 180 days after receipt of such report.

6. Approval By Non-Operators

Where an approval or other agreement of the Parties or Non-Operators is expressly required under other sections of this Accounting Procedure and if the agreement to which this Accounting Procedure is attached contains no contrary provisions in regard thereto, Operator shall notify all Non-Operators of the Operator's proposal, and the agreement or approval of a majority in interest of the Non-Operators shall be controlling on all Non-Operators.

II. DIRECT CHARGES

Operator shall charge the Joint Account with the following items:

1. Ecological and Environmental

Costs incurred for the benefit of the Joint Property as a result of governmental or regulatory requirements to satisfy environmental considerations applicable to the Joint Operations. Such costs may include surveys of an ecological or archaeological nature and pollution control procedures as required by applicable laws and regulations.

2. Rentals and Royalties

Lease rentals and royalties paid by Operator for the Joint Operations.

3. Labor

A. (1) Salaries and wages of Operator's field employees directly employed on the Joint Property in the conduct of Joint Operations.

(2) Salaries of First Level Supervisors in the field.

(3) Salaries and wages of Technical Employees directly employed on the Joint Property if such charges are excluded from the overhead rates.

(4) Salaries and wages of Technical Employees either temporarily or permanently assigned to and directly employed in the operation of the Joint Property if such charges are excluded from the overhead rates.

B. Operator's cost of holiday, vacation, sickness and disability benefits and other customary allowances paid to employees whose salaries and wages are chargeable to the Joint Account under Paragraph 3A of this Section II. Such costs under this Paragraph 3B may be charged on a "when and as paid basis" or by "percentage assessment" on the amount of salaries and wages chargeable to the Joint Account under Paragraph 3A of this Section II. If percentage assessment is used, the rate shall be based on the Operator's cost experience.

C. Expenditures or contributions made pursuant to assessments imposed by governmental authority which are applicable to Operator's costs chargeable to the Joint Account under Paragraphs 3A and 3B of this Section II.

D. Personal Expenses of those employees whose salaries and wages are chargeable to the Joint Account under Paragraph 3A of this Section II.

4. Employee Benefits

Operator's current costs of established plans for employees' group life insurance, hospitalization, pension, retirement, stock purchase, thrift, bonus, and other benefit plans of a like nature, applicable to Operator's labor cost chargeable to the Joint Account under Paragraphs 3A and 3B of this Section II shall be Operator's actual cost not to exceed the percent most recently recommended by the Council of Petroleum Accountants Societies.

5. Material

Material purchased or furnished by Operator for use on the Joint Property as provided under Section IV. Only such Material shall be purchased for or transferred to the Joint Property as may be required for immediate use and is reasonably practical and consistent with efficient and economical operations. The accumulation of surplus stocks shall be avoided.

6. Transportation

Transportation of employees and Material necessary for the Joint Operations but subject to the following limitations:

- A. If Material is moved to the Joint Property from the Operator's warehouse or other properties, no charge shall be made to the Joint Account for a distance greater than the distance from the nearest reliable supply store where like material is normally available or railway receiving point nearest the Joint Property unless agreed to by the Parties.
- B. If surplus Material is moved to Operator's warehouse or other storage point, no charge shall be made to the Joint Account for a distance greater than the distance to the nearest reliable supply store where like material is normally available, or railway receiving point nearest the Joint Property unless agreed to by the Parties. No charge shall be made to the Joint Account for moving Material to other properties belonging to Operator, unless agreed to by the Parties.
- C. In the application of subparagraphs A and B above, the option to equalize or charge actual trucking cost is available when the actual charge is \$400 or less excluding accessorial charges. The \$400 will be adjusted to the amount most recently recommended by the Council of Petroleum Accountants Societies.

7. Services

The cost of contract services, equipment and utilities provided by outside sources, except services excluded by Paragraph 10 of Section II and Paragraph i, ii, and iii, of Section III. The cost of professional consultant services and contract services of technical personnel directly engaged on the Joint Property if such charges are excluded from the overhead rates. The cost of professional consultant services or contract services of technical personnel not directly engaged on the Joint Property shall not be charged to the Joint Account unless previously agreed to by the Parties.

8. Equipment and Facilities Furnished By Operator

- A. Operator shall charge the Joint Account for use of Operator owned equipment and facilities at rates commensurate with costs of ownership and operation. Such rates shall include costs of maintenance, repairs, other operating expense, insurance, taxes, depreciation, and interest on gross investment less accumulated depreciation not to exceed eight percent (8%) per annum. Such rates shall not exceed average commercial rates currently prevailing in the immediate area of the Joint Property.
- B. In lieu of charges in paragraph 8A above, Operator may elect to use average commercial rates prevailing in the immediate area of the Joint Property less 20%. For automotive equipment, Operator may elect to use rates published by the Petroleum Motor Transport Association.

9. Damages and Losses to Joint Property

All costs or expenses necessary for the repair or replacement of Joint Property made necessary because of damages or losses incurred by fire, flood, storm, theft, accident, or other cause, except those resulting from Operator's gross negligence or willful misconduct. Operator shall furnish Non-Operator written notice of damages or losses incurred as soon as practicable after a report thereof has been received by Operator.

10. Legal Expense

Expense of handling, investigating and settling litigation or claims, discharging of liens, payment of judgements and amounts paid for settlement of claims incurred in or resulting from operations under the agreement or necessary to protect or recover the Joint Property, except that no charge for services of Operator's legal staff or fees or expense of outside attorneys shall be made unless previously agreed to by the Parties. All other legal expense is considered to be covered by the overhead provisions of Section III unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties, except as provided in Section I, Paragraph 3.

11. Taxes

All taxes of every kind and nature assessed or levied upon or in connection with the Joint Property, the operation thereof, or the production therefrom, and which taxes have been paid by the Operator for the benefit of the Parties. If the ad valorem taxes are based in whole or in part upon separate valuations of each party's working interest, then notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, charges to the Joint Account shall be made and paid by the Parties hereto in accordance with the tax value generated by each party's working interest.



12. Insurance

Net premiums paid for insurance required to be carried for the Joint Operations for the protection of the Parties. In the event Joint Operations are conducted in a state in which Operator may act as self-insurer for Worker's Compensation and/or Employers Liability under the respective state's laws, Operator may, at its election, include the risk under its self-insurance program and in that event, Operator shall include a charge at Operator's cost not to exceed manual rates.

13. Abandonment and Reclamation

Costs incurred for abandonment of the Joint Property, including costs required by governmental or other regulatory authority.

14. Communications

Cost of acquiring, leasing, installing, operating, repairing and maintaining communication systems, including radio and microwave facilities directly serving the Joint Property. In the event communication facilities/systems serving the Joint Property are Operator owned, charges to the Joint Account shall be made as provided in Paragraph 8 of this Section II.

16. Other Expenditures

Any other expenditure not covered or dealt with in the foregoing provisions of this Section II, or in Section III and which is of direct benefit to the Joint Property and is incurred by the Operator in the necessary and proper conduct of the Joint Operations.

III. OVERHEAD

1. Overhead - Drilling and Producing Operations

- i. As compensation for administrative, supervision, office services and warehousing costs, Operator shall charge drilling and producing operations on either:

( X ) Fixed Rate Basis, Paragraph 1A, or  
( ) Percentage Basis, Paragraph 1B

Unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties, such charge shall be in lieu of costs and expenses of all offices and salaries or wages plus applicable burdens and expenses of all personnel, except those directly chargeable under Paragraph 3A, Section II. The cost and expense of services from outside sources in connection with matters of taxation, traffic, accounting or matters before or involving governmental agencies shall be considered as included in the overhead rates provided for in the above selected Paragraph of this Section III unless such cost and expense are agreed to by the Parties as a direct charge to the Joint Account.

- ii. The salaries, wages and Personal Expenses of Technical Employees and/or the cost of professional consultant services and contract services of technical personnel directly employed on the Joint Property:

( ) shall be covered by the overhead rates, or  
( X ) shall not be covered by the overhead rates.

- iii. The salaries, wages and Personal Expenses of Technical Employees and/or costs of professional consultant services and contract services of technical personnel either temporarily or permanently assigned to and directly employed in the operation of the Joint Property:

( ) shall be covered by the overhead rates, or  
( X ) shall not be covered by the overhead rates.

A. Overhead - Fixed Rate Basis

- (1) Operator shall charge the Joint Account at the following rates per well per month:

Drilling Well Rate \$ 4,500.00  
(Prorated for less than a full month)

Producing Well Rate \$ 450.00

- (2) Application of Overhead - Fixed Rate Basis shall be as follows:

(a) Drilling Well Rate

- (1) Charges for drilling wells shall begin on the date the well is spudded and terminate on the date the drilling rig, completion rig, or other units used in completion of the well is released, whichever

is later, except that no charge shall be made during suspension of drilling or completion operations for fifteen (15) or more consecutive calendar days.

- (2) Charges for wells undergoing any type of workover or recompletion for a period of five (5) consecutive work days or more shall be made at the drilling well rate. Such charges shall be applied for the period from date workover operations, with rig or other units used in workover, commence through date of rig or other unit release, except that no charge shall be made during suspension of operations for fifteen (15) or more consecutive calendar days.

(b) Producing Well Rates

- (1) An active well either produced or injected into for any portion of the month shall be considered as a one-well charge for the entire month.
- (2) Each active completion in a multi-completed well in which production is not commingled down hole shall be considered as a one-well charge providing each completion is considered a separate well by the governing regulatory authority.
- (3) An inactive gas well shut in because of overproduction or failure of purchaser to take the production shall be considered as a one-well charge providing the gas well is directly connected to a permanent sales outlet.
- (4) A one-well charge shall be made for the month in which plugging and abandonment operations are completed on any well. This one-well charge shall be made whether or not the well has produced except when drilling well rate applies.
- (5) All other inactive wells (including but not limited to inactive wells covered by unit allowable, lease allowable, transferred allowable, etc.) shall not qualify for an overhead charge.
- (3) The well rates shall be adjusted as of the first day of April each year following the effective date of the agreement to which this Accounting Procedure is attached. The adjustment shall be computed by multiplying the rate currently in use by the percentage increase or decrease in the average weekly earnings of Crude Petroleum and Gas Production Workers for the last calendar year compared to the calendar year preceding as shown by the index of average weekly earnings of Crude Petroleum and Gas Production Workers as published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, or the equivalent Canadian index as published by Statistics Canada, as applicable. The adjusted rates shall be the rates currently in use, plus or minus the computed adjustment.

B. Overhead - Percentage Basis

- (1) Operator shall charge the Joint Account at the following rates:

(a) Development

\_\_\_\_\_ Percent ( \_\_\_\_\_ %) of the cost of development of the Joint Property exclusive of costs provided under Paragraph 10 of Section II and all salvage credits.

(b) Operating

\_\_\_\_\_ Percent ( \_\_\_\_\_ %) of the cost of operating the Joint Property exclusive of costs provided under Paragraphs 2 and 10 of Section II, all salvage credits, the value of injected substances purchased for secondary recovery and all taxes and assessments which are levied, assessed and paid upon the mineral interest in and to the Joint Property.

- (2) Application of Overhead - Percentage Basis shall be as follows:

For the purpose of determining charges on a percentage basis under Paragraph 1B of this Section III, development shall include all costs in connection with drilling, redrilling, deepening, or any remedial operations on any or all wells involving the use of drilling rig and crew capable of drilling to the producing interval on the Joint Property; also, preliminary expenditures necessary in preparation for drilling and expenditures incurred in abandoning when the well is not completed as a producer, and original cost of construction or installation of fixed assets, the expansion of fixed assets and any other project clearly discernible as a fixed asset, except Major Construction as defined in Paragraph 2 of this Section III. All other costs shall be considered as operating.

2. Overhead - Major Construction

To compensate Operator for overhead costs incurred in the construction and installation of fixed assets, the expansion of fixed assets, and any other project clearly discernible as a fixed asset required for the development and operation of the Joint Property, Operator shall either negotiate a rate prior to the beginning of construction, or shall charge the Joint

COPAS

Account for overhead based on the following rates for any Major Construction project in excess of \$ \_\_\_\_\_:

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ % of first \$100,000 or total cost if less, plus  
B. \_\_\_\_\_ % of costs in excess of \$100,000 but less than \$1,000,000, plus  
C. \_\_\_\_\_ % of costs in excess of \$1,000,000.

\*to be negotiated.

Total cost shall mean the gross cost of any one project. For the purpose of this paragraph, the component parts of a single project shall not be treated separately and the cost of drilling and workover wells and artificial lift equipment shall be excluded.

### 3. Catastrophe Overhead

To compensate Operator for overhead costs incurred in the event of expenditures resulting from a single occurrence due to oil spill, blowout, explosion, fire, storm, hurricane, or other catastrophes as agreed to by the Parties, which are necessary to restore the Joint Property to the equivalent condition that existed prior to the event causing the expenditures, Operator shall either negotiate a rate prior to charging the Joint Account or shall charge the Joint Account for overhead based on the following rates:

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ % of total costs through \$100,000; plus  
B. \_\_\_\_\_ % of total costs in excess of \$100,000 but less than \$1,000,000; plus  
C. \_\_\_\_\_ % of total costs in excess of \$1,000,000.

\*to be negotiated.

Expenditures subject to the overheads above will not be reduced by insurance recoveries, and no other overhead provisions of this Section III shall apply.

### 4. Amendment of Rates

The overhead rates provided for in this Section III may be amended from time to time only by mutual agreement between the Parties hereto if, in practice, the rates are found to be insufficient or excessive.

## IV. PRICING OF JOINT ACCOUNT MATERIAL PURCHASES, TRANSFERS AND DISPOSITIONS

Operator is responsible for Joint Account Material and shall make proper and timely charges and credits for all Material movements affecting the Joint Property. Operator shall provide all Material for use on the Joint Property; however, at Operator's option, such Material may be supplied by the Non-Operator. Operator shall make timely disposition of idle and/or surplus Material, such disposal being made either through sale to Operator or Non-Operator, division in kind, or sale to outsiders. Operator may purchase, but shall be under no obligation to purchase, interest of Non-Operators in surplus condition A or B Material. The disposal of surplus Controllable Material not purchased by the Operator shall be agreed to by the Parties.

### 1. Purchases

Material purchased shall be charged at the price paid by Operator after deduction of all discounts received. In case of Material found to be defective or returned to vendor for any other reasons, credit shall be passed to the Joint Account when adjustment has been received by the Operator.

### 2. Transfers and Dispositions

Material furnished to the Joint Property and Material transferred from the Joint Property or disposed of by the Operator, unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties, shall be priced on the following basis exclusive of cash discounts:

#### A. New Material (Condition A)

##### (1) Tubular Goods Other than Line Pipe

- (a) Tubular goods, sized 2½ inches OD and larger, except line pipe, shall be priced at Eastern mill published carload base prices effective as of date of movement plus transportation cost using the 80,000 pound carload weight basis to the railway receiving point nearest the Joint Property for which published rail rates for tubular goods exist. If the 80,000 pound rail rate is not offered, the 70,000 pound or 90,000 pound rail rate may be used. Freight charges for tubing will be calculated from Lorain, Ohio and casing from Youngstown, Ohio.

- (b) For grades which are special to one mill only, prices shall be computed at the mill base of that mill plus transportation cost from that mill to the railway receiving point nearest the Joint Property as provided above in Paragraph 2.A.(1)(a). For transportation cost from points other than Eastern mills, the 30,000

1 pound Oil Field Haulers Association interstate truck rate shall be used.

2  
3 (c) Special end finish tubular goods shall be priced at the lowest published out-of-stock price, f.o.b. Houston,  
4 Texas, plus transportation cost, using Oil Field Haulers Association interstate 30,000 pound truck rate,  
5 to the railway receiving point nearest the Joint Property.

6  
7 (d) Macaroni tubing (size less than 2 3/4 inch OD) shall be priced at the lowest published out-of-stock prices  
8 f.o.b. the supplier plus transportation costs, using the Oil Field Haulers Association interstate truck rate  
9 per weight of tubing transferred, to the railway receiving point nearest the Joint Property.

10  
11 (2) Line Pipe

12  
13 (a) Line pipe movements (except size 24 inch OD and larger with walls 3/4 inch and over) 30,000 pounds or  
14 more shall be priced under provisions of tubular goods pricing in Paragraph A.(1)(a) as provided above.  
15 Freight charges shall be calculated from Lorain, Ohio.

16  
17 (b) Line pipe movements (except size 24 inch OD and larger with walls 3/4 inch and over) less than 30,000  
18 pounds shall be priced at Eastern mill published carload base prices effective as of date of shipment,  
19 plus 20 percent, plus transportation costs based on freight rates as set forth under provisions of tubular  
20 goods pricing in Paragraph A.(1)(a) as provided above. Freight charges shall be calculated from Lorain,  
21 Ohio.

22  
23 (c) Line pipe 24 inch OD and over and 3/4 inch wall and larger shall be priced f.o.b. the point of  
24 manufacture at current new published prices plus transportation cost to the railway receiving point  
25 nearest the Joint Property.

26  
27 (d) Line pipe, including fabricated line pipe, drive pipe and conduit not listed on published price lists shall  
28 be priced at quoted prices plus freight to the railway receiving point nearest the Joint Property or at  
29 prices agreed to by the Parties.

30  
31 (3) Other Material shall be priced at the current new price, in effect at date of movement, as listed by a reliable  
32 supply store nearest the Joint Property, or point of manufacture, plus transportation costs, if applicable, to the  
33 railway receiving point nearest the Joint Property.

34  
35 (4) Unused new Material, except tubular goods, moved from the Joint Property shall be priced at the current  
36 new price, in effect on date of movement, as listed by a reliable supply store nearest the Joint Property, or  
37 point of manufacture, plus transportation costs, if applicable, to the railway receiving point nearest the Joint  
38 Property. Unused new tubulars will be priced as provided above in Paragraph 2.A.(1) and (2).

39  
40 B. Good Used Material (Condition B)

41  
42 Material in sound and serviceable condition and suitable for reuse without reconditioning:

43  
44 (1) Material moved to the Joint Property

45  
46 At seventy-five percent (75%) of current new price, as determined by Paragraph A.

47  
48 (2) Material used on and moved from the Joint Property

49  
50 (a) At seventy-five percent (75%) of current new price, as determined by Paragraph A, if Material was  
51 originally charged to the Joint Account as new Material or

52  
53 (b) At sixty-five percent (65%) of current new price, as determined by Paragraph A, if Material was  
54 originally charged to the Joint Account as used Material.

55  
56 (3) Material not used on and moved from the Joint Property

57  
58 At seventy-five percent (75%) of current new price as determined by Paragraph A.

59  
60 The cost of reconditioning, if any, shall be absorbed by the transferring property.

61  
62 C. Other Used Material

63  
64 (1) Condition C

65  
66 Material which is not in sound and serviceable condition and not suitable for its original function until  
67 after reconditioning shall be priced at fifty percent (50%) of current new price as determined by  
68 Paragraph A. The cost of reconditioning shall be charged to the receiving property, provided Condition  
69 C value plus cost of reconditioning does not exceed Condition B value.

(2) Condition D

Material, excluding junk, no longer suitable for its original purpose, but usable for some other purpose shall be priced on a basis commensurate with its use. Operator may dispose of Condition D Material under procedures normally used by Operator without prior approval of Non-Operators.

(a) Casing, tubing, or drill pipe used as line pipe shall be priced as Grade A and B seamless line pipe of comparable size and weight. Used casing, tubing or drill pipe utilized as line pipe shall be priced at used line pipe prices.

(b) Casing, tubing or drill pipe used as higher pressure service lines than standard line pipe, e.g. power oil lines, shall be priced under normal pricing procedures for casing, tubing, or drill pipe. Upset tubular goods shall be priced on a non upset basis.

(3) Condition E

Junk shall be priced at prevailing prices. Operator may dispose of Condition E Material under procedures normally utilized by Operator without prior approval of Non-Operators.

D. Obsolete Material

Material which is serviceable and usable for its original function but condition and/or value of such Material is not equivalent to that which would justify a price as provided above may be specially priced as agreed to by the Parties. Such price should result in the Joint Account being charged with the value of the service rendered by such Material.

E. Pricing Conditions

(1) Loading or unloading costs may be charged to the Joint Account at the rate of twenty-five cents (25¢) per hundred weight on all tubular goods movements, in lieu of actual loading or unloading costs sustained at the stocking point. The above rate shall be adjusted as of the first day of April each year following January 1, 1985 by the same percentage increase or decrease used to adjust overhead rates in Section III. Paragraph 1.A.(3). Each year, the rate calculated shall be rounded to the nearest cent and shall be the rate in effect until the first day of April next year. Such rate shall be published each year by the Council of Petroleum Accountants Societies.

(2) Material involving erection costs shall be charged at applicable percentage of the current knocked down price of new Material.

3. Premium Prices

Whenever Material is not readily obtainable at published or listed prices because of national emergencies, strikes or other unusual causes over which the Operator has no control, the Operator may charge the Joint Account for the required Material at the Operator's actual cost incurred in providing such Material, in making it suitable for use, and in moving it to the Joint Property; provided notice in writing is furnished to Non-Operators of the proposed charge prior to billing Non-Operators for such Material. Each Non-Operator shall have the right, by so electing and notifying Operator within ten days after receiving notice from Operator, to furnish in kind all or part of his share of such Material suitable for use and acceptable to Operator.

4. Warranty of Material Furnished By Operator

Operator does not warrant the Material furnished. In case of defective Material, credit shall not be passed to the Joint Account until adjustment has been received by Operator from the manufacturers or their agents.

V. INVENTORIES

The Operator shall maintain detailed records of Controllable Material.

1. Periodic Inventories, Notice and Representation

At reasonable intervals, inventories shall be taken by Operator of the Joint Account Controllable Material. Written notice of intention to take inventory shall be given by Operator at least thirty (30) days before any inventory is to begin so that Non-Operators may be represented when any inventory is taken. Failure of Non-Operators to be represented at an inventory shall bind Non-Operators to accept the inventory taken by Operator.

2. Reconciliation and Adjustment of Inventories

Adjustments to the Joint Account resulting from the reconciliation of a physical inventory shall be made within six months following the taking of the inventory. Inventory adjustments shall be made by Operator to the Joint Account for

overages and shortages, but, Operator shall be held accountable only for shortages due to lack of reasonable diligence.

3. Special Inventories

Special inventories may be taken whenever there is any sale, change of interest, or change of Operator in the Joint Property. It shall be the duty of the party selling to notify all other Parties as quickly as possible after the transfer of interest takes place. In such cases, both the seller and the purchaser shall be governed by such inventory. In cases involving a change of Operator, all Parties shall be governed by such inventory.

4. Expense of Conducting Inventories

A. The expense of conducting periodic inventories shall not be charged to the Joint Account unless agreed to by the Parties.

B. The expense of conducting special inventories shall be charged to the Parties requesting such inventories, except inventories required due to change of Operator shall be charged to the Joint Account.

EXHIBIT "E" - Attached to and made a part of that certain Operating Agreement dated July 1, 1998 by and between TMBR/Sharp Drilling, Inc. as "Operator" and Fuel Products, Inc., et al. as "Non-Operators".

**EXHIBIT "E"**  
**GAS BALANCING AGREEMENT ("AGREEMENT")**  
**ATTACHED TO AND MADE PART OF THAT CERTAIN**  
**OPERATING AGREEMENT DATED \_\_\_\_\_**

BY AND BETWEEN \_\_\_\_\_, AND \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
("OPERATING AGREEMENT") RELATING TO THE \_\_\_\_\_  
AREA, \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_

**1. DEFINITIONS**

The following definitions shall apply to this Agreement:

- 1.01 "Arm's Length Agreement" shall mean any gas sales agreement with an unaffiliated purchaser or any gas sales agreement with an affiliated purchaser where the sales price and delivery conditions under such agreement are representative of prices and delivery conditions existing under other similar agreements in the area between unaffiliated parties at the same time for natural gas of comparable quality and quantity.
- 1.02 "Balancing Area" shall mean each well subject to the Operating Agreement that produces Gas or is allocated a share of Gas production. If a single well is completed in two or more producing intervals, each producing interval from which the Gas production is not commingled in the wellbore shall be considered a separate well or Balancing Area.
- 1.03 "Full Share of Current Production" shall mean the Percentage Interest of each Party in the Gas actually produced from the Balancing Area during each month.
- 1.04 "Gas" shall mean all hydrocarbons produced or producible from the Balancing Area, whether from a well classified as an oil well or gas well by the regulatory agency having jurisdiction in such matters, which are or may be made available for sale or separate disposition by the Parties, excluding oil, condensate and other liquids recovered by field equipment operated for the joint account. For the purposes of this Agreement, "Gas" does not include gas used in joint operations, such as for fuel, recycling or reinjection, or which is vented or lost prior to its sale or delivery from the Balancing Area.
- 1.05 "Makeup Gas" shall mean any Gas taken by an Underproduced Party from the Balancing Area in excess of its Full Share of Current Production, whether pursuant to Section 3.3 or Section 4.1 hereof.
- 1.06 "Mcf" shall mean one thousand cubic feet. A cubic foot of Gas shall mean the volume of gas contained in one cubic foot of space at a standard pressure base and at a standard temperature base.
- 1.07 "MMBtu" shall mean one million British Thermal Units. A British Thermal Unit shall mean the quantity of heat required to raise one pound avoirdupois of pure water from 58.5 degrees Fahrenheit to 59.5 degrees Fahrenheit at a constant pressure of 14.73 pounds per square inch absolute.
- 1.08 "Operator" shall mean the individual or entity designated under the terms of the Operating Agreement or, in the event this Agreement is not employed in connection with an operating agreement, the individual or entity designated as the operator of the well(s) located in the Balancing Area.
- 1.09 "Overproduced Party" shall mean any Party having taken a greater quantity of Gas from the Balancing Area than the Percentage Interest of such Party in the cumulative quantity of all Gas produced from the Balancing Area.
- 1.10 "Overproduction" shall mean the cumulative quantity of Gas taken by a Party in excess of its Percentage Interest in the cumulative quantity of all Gas produced from the Balancing Area.
- 1.11 "Party" shall mean those individuals or entities subject to this Agreement, and their respective heirs, successors, transferees and assigns

- 1.12 "Percentage Interest" shall mean the percentage or decimal interest of each Party in the Gas produced from the Balancing Area pursuant to the Operating Agreement covering the Balancing Area. For the purposes of applying the Oklahoma Production Revenue Standards Act hereto the terms "Percentage Interest", "Proportionate Production Interest, and "Working Interest Share of Production" shall be considered equivalent terms.
- 1.13 "Royalty" shall mean payments on production of Gas from the Balancing Area to all owners of royalties, overriding royalties, production payments or similar interests.
- 1.14 "Underproduced Party" shall mean any Party having taken a lesser quantity of Gas from the Balancing Area than the Percentage Interest of such Party in the cumulative quantity of all Gas produced from the Balancing Area.
- 1.15 "Underproduction" shall mean the deficiency between the cumulative quantity of Gas taken by a Party and its Percentage Interest in the cumulative quantity of all Gas produced from the Balancing Area.
- 1.16 "Winter Period" shall mean the months of November, December, January and February.

## 2. BALANCING AREA

2.1 If this Agreement covers more than one Balancing Area, it shall be applied as if each Balancing Area were covered by separate but identical agreements. All balancing hereunder shall be on the basis of Gas taken from the Balancing Area measured in MMBtus.

2.2 In the event that all or part of the Gas deliverable from a Balancing Area is or becomes subject to one or more maximum lawful prices, any Gas not subject to price controls shall be considered as produced from a single Balancing Area and Gas subject to each maximum lawful price category shall be considered produced from a separate Balancing Area.

## 3. RIGHT OF PARTIES TO TAKE GAS

3.1 Each Party desiring to take Gas will notify the Operator, or cause the Operator to be notified of the volumes nominated, the name of the transporting pipeline and the pipeline contract number (if available) and meter station relating to such delivery, sufficiently in advance for the Operator, acting with reasonable diligence, to meet all nomination and other requirements. Operator is authorized to deliver the volumes so nominated and confirmed (if confirmation is required) to the transporting pipeline in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

3.2 Each Party shall make a reasonable, good faith effort to take its Full Share of Current Production each month, to the extent that such production is required to maintain leases in effect, to protect the producing capacity of a well or reservoir, to preserve correlative rights, or to maintain oil production.

3.3 When a Party fails for any reason to take its Full Share of Current Production (as such Share may be reduced by the right of the other Parties to make up for Underproduction as provided herein), the other Parties shall be entitled to take any Gas which such Party fails to take. To the extent practicable, such Gas shall be made available initially to each Underproduced Party in the proportion that its Percentage Interest in the Balancing Area bears to the total Percentage Interests of all Underproduced Parties desiring to take such Gas. If all such Gas is not taken by the Underproduced Parties, the portion not taken shall then be made available to the other Parties in the proportion that their respective Percentage Interests in the Balancing Area bear to the total Percentage Interests of such Parties.

3.4 All Gas taken by a Party in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, regardless of whether such Party is underproduced or overproduced, shall be regarded as Gas taken for its own account with title thereto being in such taking Party.

3.5 Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 3.3 hereof, no Overproduced Party shall be entitled in any month to take any Gas in excess of three hundred percent (300%) of its Percentage Interest of the Balancing Area's then-current Maximum Monthly Availability; provided, however, that this limitation shall not apply to the extent that it would preclude production that is required to maintain leases in effect, to protect the producing capacity of a well or reservoir, to preserve correlative rights, or to maintain oil production. "Maximum Monthly Availability" shall mean the maximum average monthly rate of production at which Gas



can be delivered from the Balancing Area, as determined by the Operator, considering the maximum efficient well rate for each well within the Balancing Area, the maximum allowable(s) set by the appropriate regulatory agency, mode of operation, production facility capabilities and pipeline pressures.

3.6 In the event that a Party fails to make arrangements to take its Full Share of Current Production required to be produced to maintain leases in effect, to protect the producing capacity of a well or reservoir, to preserve correlative rights, or to maintain oil production, the Operator may sell any part of such Party's Full Share of Current Production that such Party fails to take for the account of such Party and render to such Party, on a current basis, the full proceeds of the sale, less any reasonable marketing, compression, treating, gathering or transportation costs incurred directly in connection with the sale of such Full Share of Current Production. In making the sale contemplated herein, the Operator shall be obligated only to obtain such price and conditions of the sale as are reasonable under the circumstances and shall not be obligated to share any of its markets. Any such sale by Operator under the terms hereof shall be only for such reasonable periods of time as are consistent with the minimum needs of the industry under the particular circumstances, but in no event for a period in excess of one year. Notwithstanding the provisions of article 3.4 hereof, Gas sold by Operator for a Party under the provisions hereof shall be deemed to be Gas taken for the account of such Party.

#### 4. IN-KIND BALANCING

4.1 Effective the first day of any calendar month following at least thirty (30) days' prior written notice to the Operator, any Underproduced Party may begin taking, in addition to its Full Share of Current Production and any Makeup Gas taken pursuant to Section 3.3 of this Agreement, a share of current production determined by multiplying <sup>Twenty-Five</sup> percent (25%) of the Full Shares of Current Production of all Overproduced Parties by a fraction, the numerator of which is the Percentage Interest of such Underproduced Party and the denominator of which is the total of the Percentage Interests of all Underproduced Parties desiring to take Makeup Gas. In no event will an Overproduced Party be required to provide more than <sup>Twenty-Five</sup> percent (25%) of its Full Share of Current Production for Makeup Gas. The Operator will promptly notify all Overproduced Parties of the election of an Underproduced Party to begin taking Makeup Gas.

4.2 Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 4.1, no Overproduced Party will be required to provide ~~more than twenty-five percent (25%) of its Full Share of Current Production~~ for Makeup Gas during the Winter Period.

4.3 Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary no Underproduced Party which is a Non-Consenting Party under the Operating Agreement and is not then entitled to participate in any operation regarding a Balancing Area shall be entitled to take gas from said Balancing Area for which it is a Non-Consenting Party.

#### 5. STATEMENT OF GAS BALANCES

5.1 The Operator will maintain appropriate accounting on a monthly and cumulative basis of the volumes of Gas that each Party is entitled to receive and the volumes of Gas actually taken or sold for each Party's account. Within forty-five (45) days after the month of production, the Operator will furnish a statement for such month showing (1) each Party's Full Share of Current Production, (2) the total volume of Gas actually taken or sold for each Party's account, (3) the difference between the volume taken by each Party and that Party's Full Share of Current Production, (4) the Overproduction or Underproduction of each Party, and (5) other data as recommended by the provisions of the Council of Petroleum Accountants Societies Bulletin No. 24, as amended or supplemented hereafter. Each Party taking Gas will promptly provide to the Operator any data required by the Operator for preparation of the statements required hereunder.

5.2 If any Party fails to provide the data required herein for four (4) consecutive production months, the Operator, or where the Operator has failed to provide data, another Party, may audit the production and Gas sales and transportation volumes of the non-reporting Party to provide the required data. Such audit shall be conducted only after reasonable notice and during normal business hours in the office of the Party whose records are being audited. All costs associated with such audit will be charged to the account of the Party failing to provide the required data.

#### 6. PAYMENTS ON PRODUCTION

6.1 Each Party taking Gas shall pay or cause to be paid all production and severance taxes due

on all volumes of Gas actually taken by such Party.

6.2 Each Party shall pay or cause to be paid all Royalty due with respect to Royalty owners to whom it is accountable as if such Party were taking its Full Share of Current Production, and only its Full Share of Current Production.

6.3 In the event that any governmental authority requires that Royalty payments be made on any other basis than that provided for in this Section 6, each Party agrees to make such Royalty payments accordingly, commencing on the effective date required by such governmental authority, and the method provided for herein shall be thereby superseded.

## 7. CASH SETTLEMENTS

7.1 Upon the earlier of the plugging and abandonment of the last producing interval in the Balancing Area, the termination of the Operating Agreement or any pooling or unit agreement covering the Balancing Area, or at any time no Gas is taken from the Balancing Area for a period of twelve (12) consecutive months, any Party may give written notice calling for cash settlement of the Gas production imbalances among the Parties. Such notice shall be given to all Parties in the Balancing Area.

7.2 Within sixty (60) days after the notice calling for cash settlement under Section 7.1, the Operator will distribute to each Party a Final Gas Settlement Statement detailing the quantity of Overproduction owed by each Overproduced Party to each Underproduced Party and identifying the month to which such Overproduction is attributed, pursuant to the methodology set out in Section 7.4.

7.3 Within sixty (60) days after receipt of the Final Gas Settlement Statement, each Overproduced Party will pay to each Underproduced Party entitled to settlement the appropriate cash settlement, accompanied by appropriate accounting detail. At the time of payment, the Overproduced Party will notify the Operator of the Gas imbalance settled by the Overproduced Party's payment.

7.4 The amount of the cash settlement will be based on the proceeds received by the Overproduced Party under an Arm's Length Agreement for the Gas taken from time to time by the Overproduced Party in excess of the Overproduced Party's Full Share of Current Production. Any Makeup Gas taken by the Underproduced Party prior to monetary settlement hereunder will be applied to offset Overproduction chronologically in the order of accrual.

7.5 The values used for calculating the cash settlement under Section 7.4 will include all proceeds received for the sale of the Gas by the Overproduced Party calculated at the Balancing Area, after deducting any production or severance taxes paid and any Royalty actually paid by the Overproduced Party to an Underproduced Party's Royalty owner(s), to the extent said payments amounted to a discharge of said Underproduced Party's Royalty obligation, as well as any reasonable marketing, compression, treating, gathering or transportation costs incurred directly in connection with the sale of the Overproduction.

7.5.1 For Overproduction sold under a gas purchase contract providing for payment based on a percentage of the proceeds obtained by the purchaser upon resale of residue gas and liquid or liquifiable hydrocarbons extracted at a gas processing plant, the values used for calculating cash settlement will include proceeds received by the Overproduced Party for both the liquid hydrocarbons (including liquifiable hydrocarbons) and the residue gas attributable to the Overproduction.

7.5.2 For Overproduction processed for the account of the Overproduced Party at a gas processing plant for the extraction of liquid hydrocarbons, where settlement for the gas so processed was on a basis other than percentage of the proceeds, the values used for calculating cash settlement will include the proceeds received by the Overproduced Party for the sale of the liquid hydrocarbons extracted from the Overproduction, less the actual reasonable costs incurred by the Overproduced Party to process the Overproduction and to transport, fractionate and handle the liquid hydrocarbons extracted therefrom prior to sale.

7.6 To the extent the Overproduced Party did not sell all Overproduction under an Arm's Length Agreement, the cash settlement will be based on the weighted average price received by the Overproduced Party for any gas sold from the Balancing Area under Arm's Length Agreements during the months to which such Overproduction is attributed. In the event that no sales under Arm's Length Agreements were made during any such month, the cash settlement for such month will be based on the spot sales prices published for the applicable geographic area during such month in a mutually acceptable pricing bulletin.

7.7 Interest compounded at the maximum lawful rate of interest applicable to the Balancing Area will accrue for all amounts due under Section 7.1, beginning the first day following the date payment is due pursuant to Section 7.3. Such interest shall be borne by the Operator or any Overproduced Party in the proportion that their respective delays beyond the deadlines set out in Section 7.2 and 7.3 contributed to the accrual of the interest.

7.8 In lieu of the cash settlement required by Section 7.3, an Overproduced Party may deliver to the Underproduced Party an offer to settle its Overproduction in-kind and at such rates, quantities, times and sources as may be agreed upon by the Underproduced Party. If the Parties are unable to agree upon the manner in which such in-kind settlement gas will be furnished within sixty (60) days after the Overproduced Party's offer to settle in kind, which period may be extended by agreement of said Parties, the Overproduced Party shall make a cash settlement as provided in Section 7.3. The making of an in-kind settlement offer under this Section 7.8 will not delay the accrual of interest on the cash settlement should the Parties fail to reach agreement on an in-kind settlement.

7.9 That portion of any monies collected by an Overproduced Party for Overproduction which is subject to refund by orders of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or other governmental authority may be withheld by the Overproduced Party until such prices are finally approved by such governmental authority, unless the Underproduced Party furnishes a corporate undertaking, acceptable to the Overproduced Party, agreeing to hold the Overproduced Party harmless from financial loss due to refund orders by such governmental authority.

## 8. TESTING

Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, any Party shall have the right, from time to time, to produce and take up to one hundred percent (100%) of a well's entire Gas stream to meet the reasonable deliverability test(s) required by such Party's Gas purchaser, and the right to take any Makeup Gas shall be subordinate to the right of any Party to conduct such tests; provided, however, that such tests shall be conducted in accordance with prudent operating practices only after fifteen (15) day's prior written notice to the Operator and shall last no longer than seventy-two (72) hours.

## 9. OPERATING COSTS

Nothing in this Agreement shall change or affect any Party's obligation to pay its proportionate share of all costs and liabilities incurred in operations on or in connection with the Balancing Area, as its share thereof is set forth in the Operating Agreement, irrespective of whether any Party is at any time selling and using Gas or whether such sales or use are in proportion to its Percentage Interest in the Balancing Area.

## 10. LIQUIDS

The Parties shall share proportionately in and own all liquid hydrocarbons recovered with Gas by field equipment operated for the joint account in accordance with their Percentage Interests in the Balancing Area.

## 11. AUDIT RIGHTS

Notwithstanding any provision in this Agreement or any other agreement between the Parties hereto, and further notwithstanding any termination or cancellation of this Agreement, for a period of two (2) years from the end of the calendar year in which any information to be furnished under Section 5 or 7 hereof is supplied, any Party shall have the right to audit the records of any other Party regarding quantity, including but not limited to information regarding Btu-content. Any Underproduced Party shall have the right for a period of two (2) years from the end of the calendar year in which any cash settlement is received pursuant to Section 7 to audit the records of any Overproduced Party as to all matters concerning values, including but not limited to information regarding prices and disposition of Gas from the Balancing Area. Any such audit shall be conducted at the expense of the Party or Parties desiring such audit, and shall be conducted, after reasonable notice, during normal business hours in the office of the Party whose records are being audited. Each Party hereto agrees to maintain records as to the volumes and prices of Gas sold each month and the volumes of Gas used in its own operations, along with the Royalty paid on any such Gas used by a Party in its own operations. The audit rights provided for in this Section 11 shall be in addition to those provided for in Section 5.2 of this Agreement.

## 12. MISCELLANEOUS

12.1 As between the Parties, in the event of any conflict between the provisions of this Agreement and the provisions of any gas sales contract, or in the event of any conflict between the provisions of this Agreement and the provisions of the Operating Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall govern.

12.2 Each Party agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless all other Parties from and against any and all liability for any claims, which may be asserted by any third party which now or hereafter stands in a contractual relationship with such indemnifying Party and which arise out of the operation of this Agreement or any activities of such indemnifying Party under the provisions of this Agreement, and does further agree to save the other Parties harmless from all judgements or damages sustained and costs incurred in connection therewith.

12.3 Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, Operator is authorized to administer the provisions of this Agreement, but shall have no liability to the other Parties for losses sustained or liability incurred which arise out of or in connection with the performance of Operator's duties hereunder, except such as may result from Operator's gross negligence or willful misconduct. Operator shall not be liable to any Underproduced Party for the failure of any Overproduced Party (other than Operator) to pay any amounts owed pursuant to the terms hereof.

12.4 This Agreement shall remain in full force and effect for as long as the Operating Agreement shall remain in force and effect as to the Balancing Area, and thereafter until the Gas accounts between the Parties are settled in full, and shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the Parties hereto, and their respective heirs, successors, legal representatives and assigns, if any. The Parties hereto agree to give notice of the existence of this Agreement to any successor in interest of any such Party and to provide that any such successor shall be bound by this Agreement, and shall further make any transfer of any interest subject to the Operating Agreement, or any part thereof, also subject to the terms of this Agreement.

12.5 Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, words used in the singular include the plural, the plural includes the singular, and the neuter gender includes the masculine and the feminine.

12.6 This Agreement shall bind the Parties in accordance with the provisions hereof, and nothing herein shall be construed or interpreted as creating any rights in any person or entity not a signatory hereto, or as being a stipulation in favor of any such person or entity.

12.7 If contemporaneously with this Agreement becoming effective, or thereafter, any Party requests that any other Party execute an appropriate memorandum or notice of this Agreement in order to give third parties notice of record of same and submits same for execution in recordable form, such memorandum or notice shall be duly executed by the Party to which such request is made and delivered promptly thereafter to the Party making the request. Upon receipt, the Party making the request shall cause the memorandum or notice to be duly recorded in the appropriate real property or other records affecting the Balancing Area.

12.8 With respect to accounting treatment of any gas imbalances as may exist, the parties agree to use the "cumulative method" [as defined in Income Tax Regulation §1.761-2 (d) (4)] of accounting for federal income tax purposes. The "entitlements method" shall not be used for reporting gas sales from the properties subject hereto.

### 13. ASSIGNMENT AND RIGHTS UPON ASSIGNMENT

13.1 Subject to the provisions of Section 13.2 hereof, and notwithstanding anything in this Agreement or in the Operating Agreement to the contrary, if any Party assigns (including any sale, exchange or other transfer) any of its working interest in the Balancing Area when such Party is an Underproduced or Overproduced Party, the assignment or other act of transfer shall, insofar as the Parties hereto are concerned, include all interest of the assigning or transferring Party in the Gas, all rights to receive or obligations to provide or take Makeup Gas and all rights to receive or obligations to make any monetary payment which may ultimately be due hereunder, as applicable. Operator and each of the other Parties hereto shall thereafter treat the assignment accordingly, and the assigning or transferring Party shall look solely to its assignee or other transferee for any interest in the Gas or monetary payment that such Party may have or to which it may be entitled, and shall cause its assignee or other transferee to assume its obligations hereunder.

13.2 The provisions of this Section 13 shall not be applicable in the event any Party mortgages its interest or disposes of its interest by merger, reorganization, consolidation or sale of substantially all of its assets to a subsidiary or parent company, or to any company in which any parent or subsidiary of such Party owns a majority of the stock of such company.

JUL-17-91 TUE 09:39 AM

TAX:

PAGE 4

Division I  
 PG Box 1963, Hobbs, NM 88241-1963  
 District II  
 611 South Pecos, ARMS, NM 88210  
 District III  
 1000 Rio Grande Rd., Amar, NM 87610  
 District IV  
 2146 South Pecos, Santa Fe, NM 87505

State of New Mexico  
 Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Department  
**OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**  
 2040 South Pacheco  
 Santa Fe, NM 87303

Form C-101  
 Revised October 18, 1986  
 Instructions on back  
 Submit to Appropriate District Office  
 State Lease - 4 Copies  
 Fee Lease - 3 Copies

☐ AMENDED REPORT

## APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO DRILL, RE-ENTER, DEEPEN, PLUGBACK, OR ADD A ZONE

Operator Name and Address <b>THERR/Sharp Drilling, Inc.</b> P. O. Drawer 10970 Midland, TX 79703		OCED Number <b>034664</b>
Property Code <b>24469</b>		Property Name <b>Blue Flag "24"</b>
		Well No. <b>1</b>

## Surface Location

UL or 1st 1/4	Section	Township	Range	Lot 1/4	Feet from the	North/South line	Feet from the	East/West line	Cont.
M	24	16S	35E		440	West	760	South	Lot

## Proposed Bottom Hole Location if Different From Surface

U/L or 1st 1/4	Section	Township	Range	Lot 1/4	Feet from the	North/South line	Feet from the	East/West line	Cont.
Proposed Pool 1						Proposed Pool 2			
Townsend (Morrow)									

Well Type Code	Well Type Code	Cable/Blowby	Lease Type Code	Ground Level Elevation
N	G	R	F	5060-7964
Multiple	Proposed Depth	Formation	Operator	Spud Date
No	12,800'	Morrow	THERR/Sharp	11/19/90

## Proposed Casing and Cement Program

Hole Size	Casing Size	Casing Weight/Lb	Joint Depth	Depth of Cement	Estimated TOC
17 1/2"	13 1/4"	48	498	440	Surface
11"	8 1/4"	32	5,000	1,000	Surface
7 1/2"	5 1/4"	17	12,800	1,200	4,800

Describe the proposed program. If this application is to DEEPEN or PLUG BACK give the data on the present productive zone and proposed new productive zone. Describe the blowout prevention program, if any. Use additional sheets if necessary.

It is proposed to drill a 17 1/2" hole to  $\pm 498'$  with FW, set 13 1/4" casing and cement casing back to surface. An 11" intermediate hole will then be drilled to  $\pm 5,000'$  w/brine-out brine system and an 8 1/4" casing string will be set and cemented back to surface. A 3000 psi annular preventer and 3000 psi dual ram BOP will be used on the intermediate hole. A 7 1/2" hole will be drilled to an approximate TD of 12,800' w/FW mud. The 5 1/4" casing will be set at TD and cemented back to the intermediate casing at 5,000'. A 3000 psi annular preventer and a 3000 psi dual ram BOP will be used on the 7 1/2" hole. Mud up will occur between 9,000' and 11,000' and several DST's are planned.

I hereby certify that the information given above is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: *J. D. P. [Signature]*

Print Name: *J. D. P. [Signature]*

Title: *Vice President*

Date: *November 14, 2000*

Phone: *(505) 699-0000*

## OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

Approved by: *ORIGINAL SIGNED BY*

Title: *FIELD MGR. II*

Approved Date: *NOV 22 1990*

Signature: *[Signature]*

Condition of Approval: *Attached*

Permit Expires 1 Year From Approval  
 Date Unless Drilling Underway

EXHIBIT

5

JUL-10-01 TUE 09:48 AM

FAX:

PAGE 1

DISTRICT I  
Ad. Div. 1001, Santa Fe, NM 87501-1001DISTRICT II  
Ad. Div. 1002, Santa Fe, NM 87501-1002DISTRICT III  
Ad. Div. 1003, Santa Fe, NM 87501-1003DISTRICT IV  
Ad. Div. 1004, Santa Fe, NM 87501-1004State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources DepartmentForm O-308  
Revised February 16, 1994  
Printed on Recycled Paper  
State Lease - 3 Copies  
Fee Lease - 3 CopiesOIL CONSERVATION DIVISION  
P.O. Box 3088  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-3088

□ ALTERNATE REPORT

## WELL LOCATION AND ACREAGE DEDICATION PLAT

API Number 30025-35257	Foot Acre 86.400	Foot Acre Townsend (Morrow)
Property Name 24469	Property Name BLUEFIN "24"	
Operator Name 36.554	Operator Name TMBR/SHARP DRILLING, INC.	
Fee Number 1	Revision 3964	

## Surface Location

Sec. or Lot No.	Section	Township	Range	Lot No.	Feet from the	North/South Line	Feet from the	East/West Line	County
M	24	18 S	35 E		780	SOUTH	650	WEST	LEA

## Bottom Hole Location If Different From Surface

Sec. or Lot No.	Section	Township	Range	Lot No.	Feet from the	North/South Line	Feet from the	East/West Line	County

Sectioned Acres	Acres or Less	Consolidation Code	Order No.
320			

NO ALLOWABLE WILL BE ASSIGNED TO THIS COMPLETION UNTIL ALL INTERESTS HAVE BEEN CONSOLIDATED  
OR A NON-STANDARD UNIT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE DIVISION

	<b>OPERATOR CERTIFICATION</b> I hereby certify the the information contained herein is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.  _____ Jeffrey O. Phillips Vice President Date: 11/17/00	
	<b>SURVEYOR CERTIFICATION</b> I hereby certify that the well location shown on this plat was plotted from field notes of record survey made by me or under my supervision and that the same is true and correct to the best of my belief.  NOVEMBER 18, 2000 _____ Jeffrey O. Phillips 1487	



## NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

GARY E. JOHNSON

Governor

Jennifer A. Sallsbury

Cabinet Secretary

Lori Wrotenbery

Director

Oil Conservation Division

August 8, 2001

Jeff Phillips  
TMBR/Sharp Drilling, Inc.  
PO Drawer 10970  
Midland, TX 79702

RE: 1) Application to drill TMBR/Sharp Drilling, Inc., IEAVELIE 23 # 1, located in G-23, T16S, R35E 2038 FNL and 1998 FEL.,  
API number 30-025-35654  
2) Voiding API Number 30-025-35654

Dear Mr. Jeff Phillips

We can not approve Form C-101 Application for permit to drill the above well do to the overlapping of the dedicated acreage in the E/2 of Sec 23, T16N, R35E. The proposed completion interval for this application was the Townsend;Mississippian, North (Gas) pool, with the E/2 of Sec 23, T16S, R35E comprising 320 acres dedicated to this well. On July 30, 2001 the Oil Conservation Division office in Hobbs approved an application to drill a well from David H Arrington Oil & Gas, Inc. This well was the David H Arrington Oil & Gas, Inc., Blue Drake 23 # 1, located in I-23, T16S, R35E, 1980 FSL and 660 FEL and dedicated to this well was the E/2 of Sec 23, T16S, R35E comprising 320 acres for the proposed completion in the Townsend;Mississippian, North (Gas) pool. Therefor API number 30-025-35654 is here by voided.

Since TMBR/Sharp Drilling believes that they are the only operator with the rights to drill this well, it is suggested that they take this mater up with David Arrington Oil & Gas Inc.

Yours very truly,

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

Chris Williams  
District I. Supervisor

PFK



District I  
PO Box 1980, Hobbs, NM 88241-1980  
District II  
811 South First, Artesia, NM 88210  
District III  
1000 Rio Brazos Rd., Aztec, NM 87410  
District IV  
2040 South Pacheco, Santa Fe, NM 87505

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Department

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION  
2040 South Pacheco  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Form C-101  
Revised October 18, 1994  
Instructions on back  
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☐ AMENDED REPORT

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO DRILL, RE-ENTER, DEEPEN, PLUGBACK, OR ADD A ZONE

<sup>1</sup> Operator Name and Address. <b>TMBR/Sharp Drilling, Inc.</b> <b>P. O. Drawer 10970</b> <b>Midland, TX 79702</b>		<sup>1</sup> OGRID Number <b>036554</b>
		<sup>2</sup> API Number <b>30-025-35654</b>
<sup>4</sup> Property Code <b>28580</b>	<sup>3</sup> Property Name <b>Leavelle "23"</b>	<sup>5</sup> Well No. <b>1</b>

<sup>7</sup> Surface Location

UL or lot no.	Section	Township	Range	Lot Idn	Feet from the	North/South line	Feet from the	East/West line	Count
G	23	16S	35E		2038	North	1998	East	Lea

<sup>8</sup> Proposed Bottom Hole Location If Different From Surface

UL or lot no.	Section	Township	Range	Lot Idn	Feet from the	North/South line	Feet from the	East/West line	Count
<sup>9</sup> Proposed Pool 1 Townsend; Mississippian, N.					<sup>10</sup> Proposed Pool 2 Townsend; Morrow				

<sup>11</sup> Work Type Code N	<sup>12</sup> Well Type Code G	<sup>13</sup> Cable/Rotary R	<sup>14</sup> Lease Type Code P	<sup>15</sup> Ground Level Elevation 3965
<sup>16</sup> Multiple No	<sup>17</sup> Proposed Depth 13,200'	<sup>18</sup> Formation Mississippian	<sup>19</sup> Contractor TMBR/Sharp	<sup>20</sup> Spud Date 9/01/01

<sup>21</sup> Proposed Casing and Cement Program

Hole Size	Casing Size	Casing weight/foot	Setting Depth	Sacks of Cement	Estimated TOC
17 1/2"	13 3/4"	54.5	420	500	Surface
12 1/4"	9"	40	5,000	1800	Surface
8"	7"	23 & 26	12,000	1000	5,000
6"	4"	11.6	13,200	135	11,900

<sup>22</sup> Describe the proposed program. If this application is to DEEPEN or PLUG BACK give the data on the present productive zone and proposed new productive zone. Describe the blowout prevention program, if any. Use additional sheets if necessary.

It is proposed to drill a 17 1/2" hole to  $\pm 420'$  with fresh water & set 13 3/4" csg & cement to surface. A 12 1/4" intermediate hole will be drilled to  $\pm 5000'$  with cut-brine system & 9" csg will be set & cemented back to surface. A 3000 psi annular preventer & 3000 psi dual ram BOP will be used on the intermediate hole. An 8 3/4" hole will be drilled to a TD of  $\pm 12,000'$  with FW mud where 7" csg will be set at TD & cemented back to the intermediate csg @ 5000'. We will drill a 6 1/4" hole to TD of  $\pm 13,200'$ . We plan to run a 4 1/4" liner to TD with top of liner @ 11,900' & cement w/135 sacks. A 3000 psi annular preventer & a 5000 psi double ram BOP will be used on the 8 3/4" & 6 1/4" hole. Mud up will occur between 9000' & 10,000' & several DST's are planned.

<sup>23</sup> I hereby certify that the information given above is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. Signature: <i>L. Arnold</i>		<b>OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION</b>	
Printed name: <b>Lennie Arnold</b>		Approved by:	
Title: <b>Production Manager</b>		Title:	
Date: <b>August 6, 2001</b>		Approval Date:	
Phone: (915) 699-5050		Expiration Date:	
Conditions of Approval:		Attached <input type="checkbox"/>	

Permit Expires 1 Year From Approval  
Date Unless Drilling Underway







## NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

GARY E. JOHNSON

Governor

Jennifer A. Salisbury

Cabinet Secretary

Lori Wrotenbery

Director

Oil Conservation Division

August 8, 2001

Jeff Phillips  
TMBR/Sharp Drilling, Inc.  
PO Drawer 10970  
Midland, TX 79702

RE: 1) Application to drill TMBR/Sharp Drilling, Inc., Blue Fin 25 # 1, located in E-25, T16S, R35E 1913 PNL and 924 FWL,  
API number 30-025-35653  
2) Voiding API Number 30-025-35653

Dear Mr. Jeff Phillips

We can not approve Form C-101 Application for permit to drill the above well do to the overlapping of the dedicated acreage in the NW/4 of Sec 25, T16s, R35E. The proposed completion interval for this application was a Wildcat;Mississippian (Gas) pool, with the N/2 of Sec 25, T16S, R35E comprising 320 acres dedicated to this well. On July 19, 2001 the Oil Conservation Division office in Hobbs approved an application to drill a well from David H Arrington Oil & Gas, Inc. This well was the David H Arrington Oil & Gas, Inc., Triple-Hackle Dragon 25 # 1, located in E-25, T16S, R35E 1815 FNL and 750 FWL and dedicated to this well was the W/2 of Sec 25, T16S, R35E comprising 320 acres for the proposed completion as a Wildcat;Mississippian (Gas) pool. Therefor API number 30-025-35653 is here by voided.

Since TMBR/Sharp Drilling believes that they are the only operator with the rights to drill this well, it is suggested that they take this mater up with David Arrington Oil & Gas Inc.

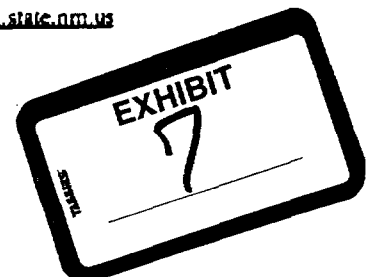
Yours very truly,

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

*Chris Williams (AK)*

Chris Williams  
District I. Supervisor

PFK



District I  
PO Box 1780, Hobbs, NM 88241-1980  
District II  
811 South First, Artesia, NM 88210  
District III  
1000 Rio Brazos Rd., Aztec, NM 87410  
District IV  
2040 South Pacheco, Santa Fe, NM 87505

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Department

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION  
2040 South Pacheco  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Form C-101

Revised October 18, 1994

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## APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO DRILL, RE-ENTER, DEEPEN, PLUGBACK, OR ADD A ZONE

<sup>1</sup> Operator Name and Address: <b>TMBR/Sharp Drilling, Inc.</b> <b>P. O. Drawer 10970</b> <b>Midland, TX 79702</b>		<sup>2</sup> OGRID Number <b>036554</b>
		<sup>3</sup> API Number <b>30-025-35653</b>
<sup>4</sup> Property Code <b>28579</b>	<sup>5</sup> Property Name <b>Blue Fin "25"</b>	<sup>6</sup> Well No. <b>1</b>

<sup>7</sup> Surface Location

UL or lot no.	Section	Township	Range	Lot Idn	Feet from the	North/South line	Feet from the	East/West line	Count
E	25	16S	35E		1913	North	924	West	Lea

<sup>8</sup> Proposed Bottom Hole Location If Different From Surface

UL or lot no.	Section	Township	Range	Lot Idn	Feet from the	North/South line	Feet from the	East/West line	Count
<sup>9</sup> Proposed Pool 1 Townsend; Mississippian, N.					<sup>10</sup> Proposed Pool 2 Townsend; Morrow				

<sup>11</sup> Work Type Code N	<sup>12</sup> Well Type Code G	<sup>13</sup> Cable/Rotary R	<sup>14</sup> Lease Type Code P	<sup>15</sup> Ground Level Elevation 3959
<sup>16</sup> Multiple No	<sup>17</sup> Proposed Depth 13,200'	<sup>18</sup> Formation Mississippian	<sup>19</sup> Contractor TMBR/Sharp	<sup>20</sup> Spud Date 9/01/01

<sup>21</sup> Proposed Casing and Cement Program

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12 1/4"	9 1/4"	40	5,000	1800	Surface
8 1/2"	7"	23 & 26	12,000	1000	5,000
6 1/2"	4 1/2"	11.6	13,200	135	11,900

<sup>22</sup> Describe the proposed program. If this application is to DEEPEN or PLUG BACK give the data on the present productive zone and proposed new productive zone. Describe the blowout prevention program, if any. Use additional sheets if necessary.

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<sup>23</sup> I hereby certify that the information given above is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. Signature: <i>L. A. Arnold</i> Printed name: <b>Louise Arnold</b> Title: <b>Production Manager</b> Date: <b>August 6, 2001</b>		<b>OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION</b> Approved by: Title: Approval Date: Expiration Date: Conditions of Approval: Attached <input type="checkbox"/>	
Phone: (915) 699-5650			

Permit Expires 1 Year From Approval  
Date Unless Drilling Underway

JFI  
1000, Santa Fe, NM 87504-2088State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources DepartmentForm C-105  
Revised February 18, 1994  
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Fee Lease - 3 CopiesDISTRICT II  
P.O. Box 2088, Santa Fe, NM 87504-2088

## OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

P.O. Box 2088  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2088DISTRICT III  
1000 Elie Brown Rd., Artes, NM 87410DISTRICT IV  
P.O. Box 2088, Santa Fe, N.M. 87504-2088

## WELL LOCATION AND ACREAGE DEDICATION PLAT

☐ AMENDED REPORT

API Number <b>30-025-35653</b>	Pool Code <b>86390</b>	Pool Name <b>Townsend; Mississippian, N.</b>
Property Code <b>28579</b>	Property Name <b>BLUEFIN 25</b>	
OC&B No. <b>036554</b>	Operator Name <b>TMR/SHARP DRILLING, INC.</b>	Well Number <b>1</b>
		Elevation <b>3959'</b>

## Surface Location

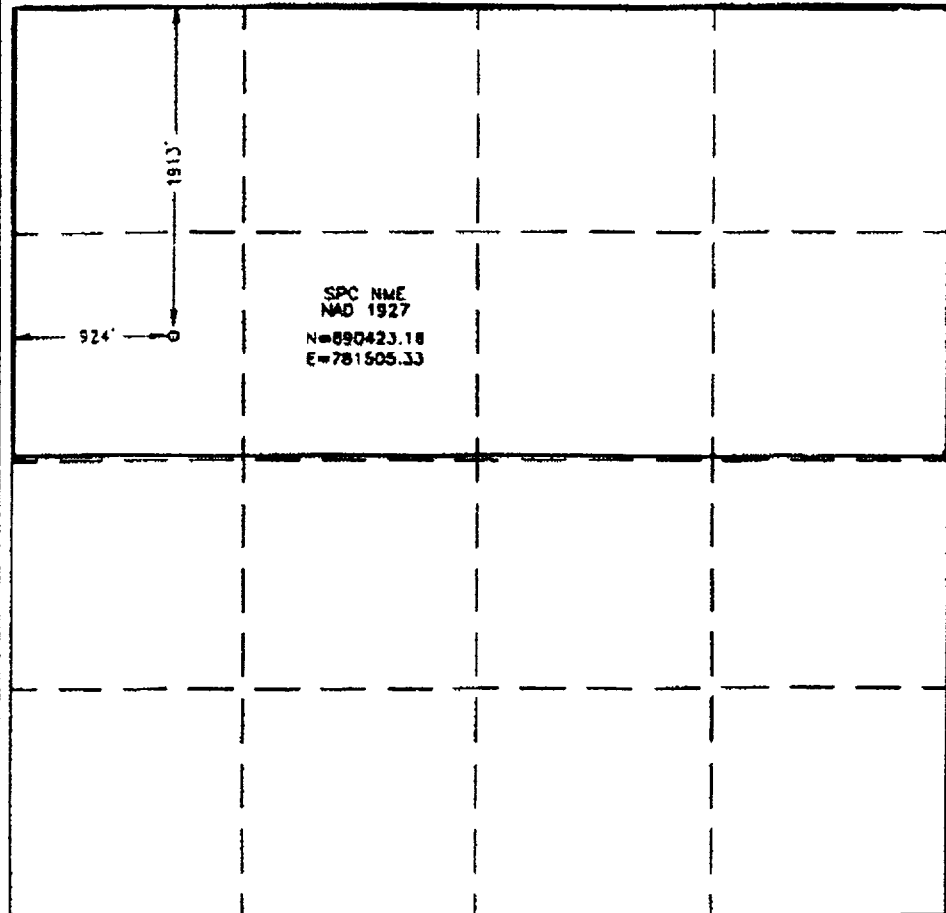
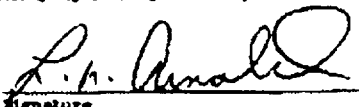
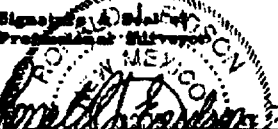
UL or lot No.	Section	Township	Range	Lot Idn	Feet from the	North/South Line	Feet from the	East/West line	County
<b>E</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>16-S</b>	<b>35-E</b>		<b>1913</b>	<b>NORTH</b>	<b>924</b>	<b>WEST</b>	<b>LEA</b>

## Bottom Hole Location If Different From Surface

UL or lot No.	Section	Township	Range	Lot Idn	Feet from the	North/South line	Feet from the	East/West line	County

Dedicated Acres	Joint or Infill	Consolidation Code	Order No.
<b>320</b>			

NO ALLOWABLE WILL BE ASSIGNED TO THIS COMPLETION UNTIL ALL INTERESTS HAVE BEEN CONSOLIDATED  
OR A NON-STANDARD UNIT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE DIVISION

	<b>OPERATOR CERTIFICATION</b>  I hereby certify that the information contained herein is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.   Signature <b>Lonnie Arnold</b> Printed Name <b>Production Manager</b> Title <b>8/7/01</b> Date
	<b>SURVEYOR CERTIFICATION</b>  I hereby certify that the well location shown on this plat was plotted from field notes of actual surveys made by me or under my supervision, and that the same is true and correct to the best of my belief.  <b>JULY 26, 2001</b> Date Surveyed <b>AWB</b> Signature  Printed Name <b>Professional Surveyor</b> Title <b>011108995</b> Certificate No. <b>7/27/01</b> Date <b>011108995</b> Professional Surveyor <b>7/27/01</b> Date <b>011108995</b> Professional Surveyor
	<b>7/27/01</b> Date <b>011108995</b> Professional Surveyor <b>7/27/01</b> Date <b>011108995</b> Professional Surveyor

FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT  
STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
COUNTY OF LEA

TMBR/SHARP DRILLING, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

No. CV- 2017-3116

DAVID H. ARRINGTON OIL & GAS,  
INC., JAMES D. HUFF, MADELINE  
STOKES, ERMA STOKES HAMILTON,  
JOHN DAVID STOKES, and TOM STOKES,

Defendants.

**PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT,  
TORTIOUS INTERFERENCE, REPUDIATION, DAMAGES,  
AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

TMBR/SHARP DRILLING, INC. ("TMBR/Sharp"), Plaintiff, for cause of action against DAVID H. ARRINGTON OIL & GAS, INC., JAMES D. HUFF, MADELINE STOKES, AND ERMA STOKES HAMILTON would show the Court as follows:

**THE PARTIES**

1. Plaintiff is TMBR/Sharp Drilling, Inc. ("TMBR/Sharp") which is a Texas corporation doing business in the State of New Mexico and with offices in Midland, Texas.
2. Defendant David H. Arrington Oil & Gas, Inc. ("Arrington O&G") is a Texas corporation doing business in New Mexico and is a resident of Midland, Texas. It may be served Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, through its registered agent, Lewis Cox, III, at 311 North First Street, Lovington, New Mexico, 88260.



3. James D. Huff ("Huff") is an individual doing business in New Mexico and is a resident of Mineola, Texas. He may be served by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, at P. O. Box 705, Mineola, Texas 75773.
4. Defendant Madeline Stokes is an individual owning real property in New Mexico and residing in Ozona, Texas and may be served by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, at Box 1115, Ozona, Texas 76943.
5. Defendant Erma Stokes Hamilton is an individual owning real property in New Mexico and residing in Big Spring, Texas and may be served by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, at 408 W. Washington, Big Spring, Texas 79720.
6. Defendant John David Stokes is an individual owning real property in New Mexico and residing in Ozona, Texas and may be served by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, at P. O. Box 1739, Ozona, Texas 76943.
7. Defendant Tom Stokes is an individual owning real property in New Mexico and residing in Ozona, Texas and may be served by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, at Box 932, Ozona, Texas 76943.

#### **VENUE AND JURISDICTION**

8. Pursuant to New Mexico Statute 38-3-1(D), venue is mandatory in Lea County, New Mexico because the real property, ownership of which is at issue, is located there.
9. This Court has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of this action.

## **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

### **ORIGINAL LEASES**

10. Effective July 1, 1998, TMBR/Sharp entered into an operating agreement ("Operating Agreement") covering oil and gas properties in Lea County, New Mexico.
11. Exhibit "A" to the Operating Agreement described lands covered by the agreement including Section 24, T-16-S, R-35-E, in Lea County, New Mexico, and more specifically described two oil and gas leases, each of which cover, among other lands, the NW/4 SW/4 and NW/4 NE/4 of said Section 24.

### **THE LEASES**

12. The first lease ("First Lease") is an oil and gas lease made effective December 7, 1997 between Madeline Stokes and Ameristate Oil & Gas, Inc. ("Ameristate").
13. The First Lease is recorded in Book 827, page 128 of the Deed Records of Lea County, New Mexico, as amended by instrument dated August 10, 2000.
14. The second lease ("Second Lease") is a lease made effective December 7, 1997 between Erma Stokes Hamilton and Ameristate. It is filed in Book 827, page 124 of the Deed Records of Lea County, New Mexico as amended by instrument dated August 14, 2000.
15. By Quitclaim Deed with Reservation of Life Estate and executory rights, Emma Stokes Hamilton granted John David Stokes and Tom Stokes her remaining interest in the Second Lease.

16. These two leases, as amended, are herein referred to as the "Original Stokes Leases" or the "First Lease" and "Second Lease," and copies thereof are attached hereto as Exhibits "A" and "B"
17. TMBR/Sharp is a successor in interest to Ameristate by assignment of the First Lease and Second Lease.

### **THE POOLED UNIT**

18. On November 17, 2000, TMBR/Sharp Drilling as operator under the Operating Agreement, filed an application for permit to drill (Form C-101) with the Oil Conservation Division ("OCD") of the State of New Mexico, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit "C."
19. On the same date TMBR/Sharp filed a well location and acreage dedication plat describing the pooled unit dedicated to the proposed well, the Blue Fin "24" No. 1 Well (Form C-102) with the OCD and outlined thereon the 320 pooled acres in Township 16 South, Range 35 East, NMPM, Section 24: W/2, Lea County, New Mexico. A copy of this instrument is attached as Exhibit "D."
20. The permit to drill was approved by the OCD on November 22, 2000.
21. The Blue Fin "24" No. 1 Well was spudded in March 29, 2001 and a drill stem test was run on May 15, 2001.
22. On June 3, 2001 casing was placed in the hole.
23. On June 28, 2001 the well was perforated and on June 29, 2001 hydrocarbons were produced from the well.



24. The well, which is capable of producing hydrocarbons in paying quantities, is presently waiting for a pipeline connection.
25. The Original Stokes Leases each provides in Paragraph 5 in pertinent part: "Lessee is hereby granted the right and power, from time to time, to pool or combine this lease, the land covered by it or any part or horizon thereof with any other land, leases, mineral estates or parts thereof for the production of oil or gas . . . . Lessee shall file a written unit designation in the county in which the premises are located and such units may be designated from time to time and either before or after the completion of wells. Drilling operations on or production *from any part of any such unit* shall be considered for all purposes, except the payment of royalty, as operations conducted upon or production from the land described in this lease." (emphasis added).
26. A portion of the lands covered by each of the Original Stokes Leases, namely the NW/4 SW/4 of Section 24, was included in the unit designation filed in Lea County, New Mexico with the OCD of the State of New Mexico during the primary term of such leases. Therefore, during the primary term, there was a well being drilled on a pooled unit which included Original Stokes Lease Acreage. Those activities were sufficient to preserve the leases beyond the primary terms. The First and Second Leases and all acreage described therein are now held by the Blue Fin "24" No. 1 Well, subject to continuous development by TMBR/Sharp as described below.

### TOP LEASES

27. On or about March 27, 2001, Huff acquired an oil and gas lease from Defendant Madeline Stokes covering the same lands and minerals covered by the Original Stokes Leases. This lease is herein referred to as the "Stokes Top Lease."
28. The Stokes Top Lease purports to be for a primary term of three (3) years from June 7, 2001, and as long thereafter as oil or gas is produced from said land or from land with which said land is pooled.
29. On the same date, Huff acquired an oil and gas lease from Defendant Erma Stokes Hamilton also covering the same lands described in the Original Stokes Leases. This lease is herein referred to as the "Hamilton Top Lease."
30. The Hamilton Top Lease is for the same primary term as the Stokes Top Lease. The Stokes Top Lease and Hamilton Top Lease are herein collectively referred to as the "Huff Top Leases," and copies thereof are attached hereto as Exhibits "E" and "F."
31. The Huff Top Leases each provide in pertinent part: "This oil and gas lease is subordinate to that certain 'Prior Lease' [Original Stokes Leases] recorded in... Lea County Records, as amended by instrument dated ... recorded ... Lea County Records, but only to the extent that said prior lease is currently a valid and subsisting oil and gas lease."
32. On or about July 12, 2001 Michael J. Canon, an attorney in Midland, Texas contacted Randy V. Watts an independent landman working for TMBR/Sharp and Ameristate and other parties to the Operating Agreement.

33. Mr. Canon advised Mr. Watts that his clients – the Stokes Family – questioned the continued validity of the Original Stokes Leases, in that no pooling designation had been filed in the County Clerk’s office of Lea County prior to the expiration of the primary term of the Original Stokes Leases.
34. Mr. Phil Brewer, an attorney for TMBR/Sharp and other parties to the Operating Agreement, responded to Mr. Canon’s inquiry by letter advising of TMBR/Sharp’s position that the Original Stokes Leases were in full force and effect.
35. Mr. Canon replied to Mr. Brewer’s letter in writing indicating that the “Stokes Family had questions with respect to whether or not the lease [Original Stokes Leases] is in effect and whether Ameristate has taken the necessary and appropriate action to perpetuate its lease beyond the expiration of its primary term, June 17[sic], 2001.”
36. On information and belief, Huff has taken the position that the Original Stokes Leases have expired and that the Huff Top Leases are in effect.
37. On July 19, 2001 Arrington O&G filed an application for and obtained a permit to drill the Triple Hackle Dragon 25 No. 1. Well on the W/2 of Section 25, T-16-S, R-35-E, Lea County, New Mexico. The OCD approved the application on July 19, 2001.
38. The unit designated by Arrington O&G for this permit covered lands described in the Original Stokes Leases and the Huff Top Leases.
39. On information and belief, Arrington O&G obtained this permit to drill on the basis of ownership rights claimed to be held pursuant to the Huff Top Leases.

40. On July 30, 2001, Arrington O&G filed an application for and obtained a permit to drill the Blue Drake 23 No. 1. Well on the E/2 Section 23, T-16-S, R-35-E, Lea County, New Mexico. The OCD approved the application
41. The unit designated by Arrington O&G for this permit covered lands described in the Original Stokes Leases and the Huff Top Leases.
42. On information and belief, Arrington O&G obtained this permit to drill on the basis of ownership rights claimed to be held pursuant to the Huff Top Leases.
43. David H. Arrington ("Arrington"), President of Arrington O&G, made statements to a TMBR/Sharp representative that the leases held by TMBR/Sharp had terminated and his company intended to move forward with development.
44. On August 8, 2001, TMBR/Sharp was denied a permit to drill the Blue Fin "25" No. 1 Well on the E/2 of Section 25, by letter from Chris Williams, District I Supervisor for the Oil Conservation Division of the State of New Mexico, stating that the permit granted to Arrington O&G precluded the permit applied for by TMBR/Sharp.
45. On August 8, 2001, TMBR/Sharp was denied a permit to drill the Leavelle "23" No. 1 Well on the E/2 of Section 23, also on the basis of a letter from Chris Williams with like statement that the permit granted Arrington O&G precluded the granting of the permit sought by TMBR/Sharp.
46. The Original Stokes Leases are in full force and effect. However, each of these leases contains a "continuous development clause." Specifically, in Paragraph 12 of Exhibit A of each such lease provides in pertinent part: "Should Lessee fail to timely commence a well

in accordance with aforesaid 180 days continuous drilling or development prior to the point in time the leased premises have fully developed then this lease shall terminate as to all lands not included in or otherwise allocated to a well unit.”

47. TMBR/Sharp attempted to drill two additional wells in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 12 of the Original Stokes Lease, but was denied drilling permits by the OCD on its leasehold property because those lands are claimed to be subject to the Huff Top Leases.
48. The drilling applications filed by Arrington O&G have prevented TMBR/Sharp from exercising its rights and fulfilling its obligations under the Original Stokes Leases.

**COUNT I**  
**DECLARATORY JUDGMENT: ORIGINAL STOKES LEASES**  
**ARE PROPERLY POOLED**

49. TMBR/Sharp incorporates by reference the factual information contained in paragraphs 1 through 44 of this Complaint.
50. TMBR/Sharp is an interested party under a written contract whose rights, status or other legal relations should be determined by the Court pursuant to the New Mexico Declaratory Judgment Act 44-6-1 through 44-6-15.
51. TMBR/Sharp seeks a declaratory judgment from the Court that the Original Stokes Leases are in full force and effect because TMBR/Sharp was drilling upon lands properly pooled with the lands covered by the Original Stokes Leases across the expiration of the primary term as provided for in Paragraph 5 of the lease.
52. Specifically, TMBR/Sharp seeks a declaratory judgment that its written unit designation filed in Lea County with the Oil Conservation Division of the State of New Mexico on

November 17, 2000 satisfied the obligations of Paragraph 5 of the Original Stokes Leases to properly pool the NW/4 SW/4 of Section 25, T-16-S, R-35-E, into a unit comprised of the W/2 of said Section 25.

**COUNT II**  
**DECLARATORY JUDGMENT: HUFF TOP LEASES NOT EFFECTIVE**

53. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the factual information contained in paragraphs 1 through 44 of this Complaint.
54. TMBR/Sharp seeks a declaratory judgment from the Court that the Huff Top Leases are not effective because the Original Stokes Leases are currently valid and subsisting oil and gas leases covering the lands described therein and superior in all respects to the Huff Top Leases.

**COUNT III**  
**TORTIOUS INTERFERENCE**

55. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the factual information contained in paragraphs 1 through 44 of this Complaint.
56. Arrington, Arrington O&G's and Huff's solicitation and acceptance of the Huff Top Leases, constitute deliberate and malicious tortious interference with the contractual relationships between TMBR/Sharp on the one hand and each of Madeline Stokes and Erma Stokes Hamilton on the other.

57. Huff's knowledge of the Original Stokes Lease is undisputed and clearly evidenced by the fact that Huff took a top lease that would not be viable until the expiration of the Original Stokes Leases.
58. TMBR/Sharp has been denied its right to perform continued drilling operations on the Original Stokes Leases.
59. Huff, Arrington and/or Arrington O&G have asserted that the Original Stokes Leases expired, that the Huff Top Leases were valid and subsisting oil and gas leases, and requested and received permits from the OCD to drill wells on lands and minerals covered by the Original Stokes Leases.
60. Arrington O&G obtained drilling permits, told TMBR/Sharp employees that the Original Stokes Leases were expired, and performed operations on the lands covered by the Huff Top Leases.
61. Huff, Arrington and Arrington O&G further knew and understood that TMBR/Sharp could not utilize its contractual rights if it could not obtain permits from the Oil Conservation Division of the State of New Mexico to drill on acreage covered by the Original Stokes Leases.
62. Huff's, Arrington's and Arrington O&G's willfully and intentionally committed acts calculated to cause damage to TMBR/Sharp and its lawful business and ownership of the property pursuant to the Original Stokes Leases.
63. Huff's, Arrington's and Arrington O&G's acts were the proximate cause of damage to TMBR/Sharp in that TMBR/Sharp lost the opportunity or lost time in which to drill wells

on the pre-selected sites, and deprived TMBR/Sharp of the benefit of the Original Stokes Leases.

64. TMBR/Sharp has suffered actual damage and loss by virtue of Huff's, Arrington's and Arrington O&G's conduct by losing drilling opportunities in that drilling rigs are now reasonably available and gas prices remain high. If drilling is delayed, either rigs may become unavailable or gas prices may drop. Further, TMBR/Sharp has been damages by its loss of future production from the two wells it intended to drill but was denied permits for.

**COUNT IV**  
**TMBR/SHARP'S DUTY TO DRILL SHALL BE SUSPENDED**

65. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the factual information contained in paragraphs 1 through 44 of this Complaint.
66. Paragraph 9 of each of the Original Stokes Leases provides in pertinent part: "Should lessee be prevented from complying with any express or implied covenant of this lease, or from conducting drilling or reworking operations hereunder, or from producing oil or gas hereunder by reason of scarcity or inability to obtain or use equipment or material or by operation of force majeure, or by any federal or state law or any order, rule or regulation of governmental authority, then while so prevented, lessee's duty shall be suspended, and Lessee shall not be liable for failure to comply therewith, and this lease shall be extended while and so long as Lessee is prevented by any such cause from conducting drilling or reworking operations or from producing oil or gas hereunder, and that time while Lessee is



so prevented shall not be counted against Lessee, anything in this lease to the contrary notwithstanding.”

67. The conduct of Arrington O&G, acting on behalf of or in concert with Huff, in applying for and receiving permits to drill from the Oil Conservation Division on lands and minerals covered by the Original Stokes Leases, has caused the Oil Conservation Division to withhold the applied for drilling permits for the Blue Fin “25” No. 1 Well and the Leavelle “23” No. 1 Well, thereby resulting in circumstances which have triggered Paragraph 9 of the Original Stokes Leases.
68. Pursuant to the terms of Paragraph 9 of the Original Stokes Leases TMBR/Sharp seeks a declaratory judgment that its duty “shall be suspended” and it “shall not be liable for failure to comply therewith [the lease] and the leases “shall be extended while and so long as lessee is prevented . . . . from conducting drilling or reworking operations or from producing oil or gas hereunder,” as a result of it being unable to obtain OCD permits for the drilling of the referenced wells.

**COUNT V**  
**EQUITABLE CLAIM: LEASE REPUDIATION**

69. Plaintiff TMBR/Sharp incorporates by reference the factual information contained in paragraphs 1 through 44 of this Complaint.
70. Madeline Stokes and Erma Stokes Hamilton have, acting through their attorney, Michael J. Canon, wrongfully repudiated the Original Stokes Leases by asserting that the actions of the Lessee/Plaintiff are not sufficient, pursuant to the Original Stokes Leases, to perpetuate such leases beyond the specified primary term.
71. Further, their assertions that the Huff Top Leases are valid and subsisting oil and gas leases and permitting Huff and Arrington to obtain the interfering permits, precluding the exercise by TMBR/Sharp of its rights pursuant to the Original Stokes Leases, constitute a clear and unequivocal challenge to TMBR/Sharp's title to the Original Stokes Leases.
72. For such time as TMBR/Sharp is precluded from obtaining permits and pursuing its rights pursuant to the Original Stokes Leases, TMBR/Sharp requests this court exercise its equitable powers and suspend the running of any time period for performance by TMBR/Sharp pursuant to the Original Stokes Leases.

**PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

69. WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff TMBR/Sharp, Inc. respectfully requests the Court enter judgment awarding TMBR/Sharp the following relief:

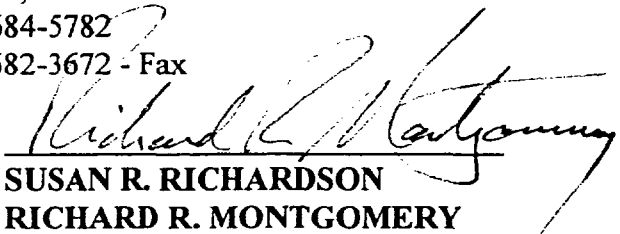
- a. All direct and consequential damages of Defendants' breaches of their duties as described herein;
- b. An award of damages for Arrington's and Huff's tortious interference;
- c. A declaration that TMBR/Sharp's written unit designation filed in Lea County with the Oil Conservation Division of the State of New Mexico on November 17, 2000, satisfied the obligations of Paragraph 5 of the Original Stokes Leases to properly pool the N/4 SW/4 of Section 25, T-16-S, R-35-E, into a unit comprised of the W/2 of said Section 25;
- d. A declaration that the Huff Top Leases are not effective because the Original Stokes Leases are currently valid and subsisting oil and gas leases covering the lands described in this Complaint;
- e. A finding that Madeline Stokes and Erma Stokes have repudiated the Original Stokes Leases;
- f. Equitable relief relieving TMBR/Sharp from any obligation to conduct further drilling operations required under the Original Stokes Leases pending a judicial resolution as to the validity of the Original Stokes Leases;
- g. A temporary restraining order and injunctive relief ordering Arrington O&G and/or Huff refrain from drilling any wells on and acreage covered by the Original Stokes Leases;
- h. Awarding TMBR/Sharp costs, reasonable attorney's fees and pre-judgment and post-judgment interest at the highest lawful statutory or contractual rate; and

- i. Awarding TMBR/Sharp such other and further relief at law or in equity to which it may be justly entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

COTTON, BLEDSOE, TIGHE & DAWSON, P.C.  
500 West Illinois, Suite 300  
P.O. Box 2776  
Midland, Texas 79702-2776  
(915) 684-5782  
(915) 682-3672 - Fax

By:

  
**SUSAN R. RICHARDSON**  
**RICHARD R. MONTGOMERY**  
**ROBERT T. SULLIVAN**

and

**PHIL BREWER**  
P. O. Box 298  
Roswell, NM 88202-0298  
(505) 625-0298

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

# EXHIBIT A

OIL & GAS LEASE

THIS AGREEMENT made this August 25, 1997, but effective December 7, 1997, between Madeline Stokes, dealing in her sole and separate property, whose address is P.O. Box 1115, Ozona, Texas 76943, herein called Lessor (whether one or more) and Lessor: AMERISTATE OIL & GAS, INC., 1211 WEST TEXAS STREET, MIDLAND, TEXAS 79701.

I, Lessor, in consideration of TEN AND 00/100ths DOLLARS and in full paid, receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, and of the royalties herein provided and of the agreements of the Lessor herein contained, hereby grants, leases and lets conclusively unto Lessor for the purpose of investigating, exploring, prospecting, drilling and reworking for and producing oil and gas, extracting gas, water, other fluids, and air into subterranean strata, laying pipe lines, setting out, building tanks, roadways, telephone lines, and other structures and things thereon to produce, save, take care of, treat, preserve, store and transport said minerals, the following described land in Lea County, New Mexico, to wit:

**Township 16 South, Range 35 East, NMPM**

**Section 13: SE 1/4**

**Section 23: SE 1/4**

**Section 24: NW 1/4 SW 1/4, NW 1/4 NE 1/4**

**Section 25: NW 1/4**

**Section 26: NE 1/4**

**SEE EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF.**

Said land is estimated to comprise 720.00 acres, whether a survey comprises more or less.

Subject to the other provisions herein contained, this lease shall remain in force for a term of three (3) years from December 7, 1997, (called "primary term"), and as long thereafter as oil or gas is produced from said land or from land with which said land is pooled.

1. The rentals to be paid by Lessor are: (a) on oil, and other liquid hydrocarbons saved at the well, 3/16 of that produced and saved from said land, same to be delivered at the well or to the credit of Lessor in the pipeline to which the well may be connected; (b) on gas, including casinghead gas or other gaseous substances produced from said land and used off the premises in use in the manufacture of gasoline or other products, the market value at the well of 3/16 of the gas used, provided that no gas sold on or off the premises, the royalty shall be 3/16 of the amount realized from such sale; (c) and at any time when this lease is not validated by other provisions hereof and there is a gas and/or condensate well on said land, or land pooled therewith, but gas or condensate is not being so sold or used and such well is shut-in, either before or after production therefrom, then on or before 180 days after said well is shut-in, and thereafter at annual intervals, Lessor may pay or tender an advance shut-in royalty equal to \$1.00 per net acre of Lessor's gas acreage then held under this lease by the party making such payment or tender, and so long as said shut-in royalty is paid or tendered, this lease shall not terminate and it shall be considered under all circumstances that gas is being produced from the leased premises in paying quantities. Each such payment shall be paid or tendered to the party or parties who at the time of such payment would be entitled to receive the royalties which would be paid under this lease if the well were in fact producing. The payment or tender of royalty and shut-in royalty may be made by check or draft. Any timely payment or tender of shut-in royalty which is made in a bona fide attempt to make proper payment, but which is erroneous in whole or in part as to parties or amounts, shall nevertheless be sufficient to prevent termination of this lease in the same manner as though a proper payment had been made. If Lessor shall default with respect to 90 days after Lessor has received written notice thereof by certified mail from the party or parties entitled to receive payment together with such written requirements (or certified copies thereof) as are necessary to enable Lessor to make proper payment. The amount realized from the sale of gas on or off the premises shall be the price established by the general contract market index in good faith by Lessor and gas purchaser for each term and under such conditions as are customary in the industry. There shall remain the amount realized by Lessor after giving effect to applicable regulatory orders and after application of any applicable price adjustments specified in such orders or regulatory orders.

2. This is a pooling lease and Lessor shall not be obligated during the primary term hereof to commence or continue any operations of whatsoever character or to make any payments hereunder in order to maintain this lease in force during the primary term, however, this provision is not intended to relieve Lessor of the obligation to pay royalties on actual production pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 3 hereof.

3. Lessor is hereby granted the right and power, from time to time, to pool or combine this lease, the land covered by it or any part or portion thereof with any other land, lease, mineral interest or party thereof for the production of oil or gas. This pooled tract shall not exceed the standard production unit fixed by law or by the Oil Conservation Division of the Energy and Minerals Department of the State of New Mexico or by any other lawful authority for the pool or area in which said land is situated, plus a tolerance of ten percent. Lessor shall file with the relevant authority in the county in which the premises are located and such units may be designated from time to time and either before or after the completion of wells. Drilling operations on or production from any part of any such unit shall be considered for all purposes, except the payment of royalty, as operations conducted upon or production from the land described in this lease. There shall be allocated to the land covered by this lease included in any such unit that portion of the total production of pooled interests from wells in the unit, after deducting any used in lease or unit operations, which the net oil or gas acreage in the land covered by this lease included in the unit bears to the total number of surface acres in the unit. The production so allocated shall be considered for all purposes, including the payment or delivery of royalty, to be the entire production of pooled interests from the portion of said land covered hereby and included in said unit in the same manner as though produced from said land under the terms of this lease. Any production designated by Lessor, as provided herein, may be delivered by Lessor by recording an appropriate instrument in the county where the land is located at any time after the completion of a dry hole or the cessation of production on said unit.

4. If at the expiration of the primary term there is an well upon said land capable of producing oil or gas, but Lessor has discontinued operations for drilling or reworking thereon, this lease shall remain in force as long as operations are prosecuted with no cessation of more than 180 consecutive days, whether such operations be on the same well or on a different or additional well or wells, and if they result in the production of oil or gas, so long thereafter as oil or gas is produced from said land. If after the expiration of the primary term all wells upon said land should become incapable of producing for any cause, this lease shall not terminate if Lessor commences operations for additional drilling or for reworking within 180 days thereafter. If any drilling, additional drilling, or reworking operations hereunder result in production, then this lease shall remain in full force so long thereafter as oil or gas is produced hereunder.

5. Lessor shall have the use of all gas and water from said land, except water from Lessor's wells and tanks, for all operations hereunder, and the royalty shall be computed after deducting any so used. Lessor shall have the right at any time during or after the expiration of this lease to remove all property and fixtures placed by Lessee on said land, including the right to drive and remove all casing. When required by Lessor, Lessee will bury all pipe lines on cultivated lands below ordinary plow depth, and no well shall be drilled within two hundred feet (200 ft.) of any residence or barn now on said land without Lessor's consent. Lessor shall have the privilege, at his risk and expense, of using gas from any gas well on said land for steam and motive power in the principal dwelling thereon, out of any surplus gas not needed for operations hereunder.

6. The rights of either party herunder may be assigned in whole or in part and the provisions hereof shall extend to their heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, but no change in the ownership of the land or in the ownership of, or rights to receive, royalty or shut-in royalty, however subordinated, shall operate to enlarge the obligations or duties of the parties herunder, and no such change or division shall be binding upon Lessor for any purpose until 90 days after Lessor has been furnished by certified mail at Lessor's principal place of business with acceptable instruments or certified copies thereof constituting the chain of title from the original Lessor. If any such change in ownership occurs through the death of the owner, Lessor may, at its option, pay or tender any royalties or shut-in royalties in the name of the deceased or to his estate or to his heirs, executors or administrators until such time as Lessor has been furnished with evidence satisfactory to Lessor as to the persons entitled to such sums. An assignment of this lease in whole or in part shall, in the event of such assignment, relieve and discharge Lessor of any obligations hereunder and, if Lessor or assignee of part or parts hereof shall fail or make default in the payment of the proceeds due part of royalties or shut-in royalty due from such Lessor or assignee or fail to comply with any of the provisions of this lease, such default shall not affect this lease insofar as it covers a part of said lands upon which Lessor or any assignee thereof shall properly comply or make such payments.

7. Should Lessor be prevented from complying with any express or implied covenants of this lease, or from conducting drilling or reworking operations hereunder, or from producing oil or gas hereunder by reason of curtesy or inability to obtain or use equipment or material, or by operation of force majeure, or by any Federal or state law or any order, rule or regulation of governmental authority, then while so prevented, Lessor's duty shall be suspended, and Lessor shall not be liable for failure to comply therewith, and this lease shall be extended while and so long as Lessor is prevented by any such cause from conducting drilling or reworking operations or from producing oil or gas hereunder, and the time while Lessor is so prevented shall not be counted against Lessor, anything in this lease to the contrary notwithstanding.

10. Lessor hereby warrants and agrees to defend the title to said land and agrees that lessee at its option may discharge any tax, mortgage or other lien upon said land, and in the event lessee does so it shall be subrogated to such lien with the right to enforce same and to apply royalties and shut-in royalties payable hereunder toward satisfying same. Without impairment of lessor's right to make the warranty, if this lease covers a less interest in the oil or gas in all or any part of said land than the entire and undivided fee simple estate (whether lessor's interest is herein specified or not) then the royalties, shut-in royalty, and other payments, if any, existing from any part as to which this lease covers less than such full interest, shall be paid only in the proportion which the interest therein, if any, covered by this lease, bears to the whole and undivided fee simple estate therein. Should any one or more of the parties named above as lessors fail to execute this lease, it shall nevertheless be binding upon the party or parties executing the same.

11. Lessor, its or his successors, heirs and assigns, shall have the right at any time to surrender this lease, in whole or in part, to lessor or his heirs, successors, and assigns by delivering or recording a release thereof to the lessee, or by placing a release thereof of record in the county in which said land is situated; thereupon lessee shall be relieved from all obligations, expressed or implied, of this agreement as to acreage so surrendered, and thereafter the shut-in royalty payable hereunder shall be reduced in the proportion that the acreage covered hereby is reduced by said release or releases.

Madeline Stokes  
Madeline Stokes

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF Crockett

} ss.

This instrument was acknowledged before me on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1997, by Madeline Stokes, dealing in her sole and separate property.

Sarah Stewart Sarah Stewart  
Notary Public

My commission expires: 03-28-01



EXHIBIT "A"

Attached to and made a part of that certain oil and gas lease dated August 25, 1997, but effective December 7, 1997, by and between Madeline Stokes, lessor, and Ameristate Oil & Gas, Inc., lessee:

12. Notwithstanding anything contained hereinabove to the contrary, it is understood and agreed that at the expiration of the primary term, this lease shall terminate as to all lands covered hereby not included in or otherwise allocated to a "well unit" as hereinafter defined, unless lessee is producing oil, gas or other hydrocarbons from any well on the leased premises, or lands pooled therewith, or is drilling upon said lands across the expiration of the primary term as provided for in the body of this lease, and does not allow more than 180 days to elapse between the completion or abandonment of one well on such land and the commencement of another well thereon until the leased premises have been "fully developed," as hereinafter defined. Operations for drilling of the first such development well must be commenced (a) within 180 days after the expiration of the primary term if production is established under this lease prior to the expiration of the primary term, or (b) within 180 days of completion of the well which is being drilled, tested or completed across the expiration of the primary term. Should lessee fail to timely commence a well in accordance with aforesaid 180 days continuous drilling or development prior to the point in time the leased premises have fully developed then this lease shall terminate as to all lands not included in or otherwise allocated to a well unit. For the purpose hereof, the term "well unit" shall mean the proration or spacing unit created for a well capable of producing oil and/or gas or other hydrocarbons in paying quantities as in accordance with the applicable rules and regulations of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division or other governmental authority having jurisdiction, and the term "fully developed" shall mean the point in time when the entirety of the leased premises has been included in a well unit or units as defined. The date of completion of a well shall be the date of a potential test if a producing well and the date of plugging if a dry hole or abandoned well. At the end of the continuous drilling program, if any, this lease will automatically terminate as to all lands covered hereby which have not been so fully developed and as to lands so fully developed shall terminate as to all depths lying more than 100' below the total depth drilled.

13. Payment of shut-in gas well royalties will not be permitted to maintain this lease in force for any period longer than two consecutive years, without the written consent of Lessor.

Signed for identification purposes:

Madeline Stokes  
Madeline Stokes

14263



STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
COUNTY OF LEA  
FILED

OCT 1 1997  
at 11:19 a.m.  
And recorded in Book 827  
Page 129  
Pat Chappell, Lea County Clerk  
By [Signature] Deputy

BOOK 827 PAGE 129



# EXHIBIT B

OIL & GAS LEASE

THIS AGREEMENT made this August 25, 1997, but effective December 7, 1997, between Erma Stokes Hamilton, dealing in her sole and separate property, whose address is P.O. Box 1470, Big Spring, Texas 79721, herein called lessor (whether one or more) and lessee: AMERITATE OIL & GAS, INC., 1211 WEST TEXAS STREET, MIDLAND, TEXAS 79701.

1. Lessor, in consideration of TEN AND 00/100ths DOLLARS cash in hand paid, receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, and of the royalties herein provided and of the agreements of the lessee herein contained, hereby grants, leases and lets exclusively unto lessee for the purpose of investigating, exploring, prospecting, drilling, and operating for and producing oil and gas, injecting gas, waters, other fluids, and air into subterranean strata, laying pipe lines, setting off, building tanks, roadways, telephone lines, and other structures and things thereon to produce, save, take care of, lease, process, store and transport said minerals, the following described land in Lea County, New Mexico, to wit:

Township 16 South, Range 35 East, NMPM

Section 13: SE 1/4

Section 23: SE 1/4

Section 24: NW 1/4 SW 1/4, NW 1/4 NE 1/4

Section 25: NW 1/4

Section 26: NE 1/4

**SEE EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF.**

Said land is estimated to comprise 720.00 acres, whether it actually comprises more or less.

2. Subject to the other provisions herein contained, this lease shall remain in force for a term of three (3) years from December 7, 1997, (called "primary term"), and so long thereafter as oil or gas is produced from said land or from land with which said land is pooled.

3. The royalties to be paid by lessee are: (a) on oil, and other liquid hydrocarbons saved at the well, 3/16 of that produced and saved from said land, same to be delivered at the well or to the credit of lessor in the pipeline to which the wells may be connected; (b) on gas, including methane gas or other gaseous substances produced from said land and used off the premises or used in the manufacture of gasoline or other products, the market value at the well of 3/16 of the gas used, provided that on gas sold on or off the premises, the royalty shall be 3/16 of the amount realized from such sale; (c) and at any time when this lease is not validated by other provisions hereof and there is a gas meter underground on said land, or land pooled therewith, but gas or condensate is not being sold or used and such well is shut-in, either before or after production therefrom, then on or before 180 days after said well is shut in, and thereafter at annual intervals, lessee may pay or tender on advances shut-in royalty equal to \$1.00 per net acre of lessor's gas acreage then held under this lease by the party making such payment or tender, and so long as said shut-in royalty is paid or tendered, this lease shall not terminate and it shall be considered under all clauses to wit that gas is being produced from the leased premises in paying quantities. Each such payment shall be paid or tendered to the party or parties who at the time of such payment would be entitled to receive the royalties which would be paid under this lease if the well were in fact producing. The payment or tender of royalties and shut-in royalties may be made by check or draft. Any timely payment or tender of shut-in royalty which is made in a bona fide attempt to make proper payment, but which is erroneous in whole or in part as to parties or amounts, shall nevertheless be sufficient to prevent termination of this lease in the same manner as though a proper payment had been made if lessee shall correct such error within 90 days after lessee has received written or certified copies thereof as are necessary to enable lessee to make proper payment. The amount realized from the sale of gas on or off the premises shall be the price established by the gas sales contract entered into in good faith by lessee and gas purchaser for such term and under such conditions as are customary in the industry. "Price" shall mean the net amount received by lessee after giving effect to applicable regulatory orders and after application of any applicable price adjustments specified in such contract or regulatory orders.

4. This is a paid-up lease and lessee shall not be obligated during the primary term hereof to commence or continue any operations of whatsoever character or to make any payments hereunder in order to maintain this lease in force during the primary term; however, this provision is not intended to relieve lessee of the obligation to pay royalties on actual production pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 3 hereof.

5. Lessee is hereby granted the right and power, from time to time, to pool or combine this lease, the land covered by it or any part or horizon thereof with any other land, lease, mineral estate or part thereof for the production of oil or gas. Units pooled hereunder shall not exceed the standard production unit fixed by law or by the Oil Conservation Division of the Energy and Minerals Department of the State of New Mexico or by any other lawful authority for the pool or area in which said land is situated, plus a tolerance of ten percent. Lessee shall file written unit designations in the county in which the premises are located and such units may be designated from time to time and either before or after the completion of wells. Drilling operations on or production from any part of any such unit shall be considered for all purposes, except the payment of royalty, as operations conducted upon or production from the land described in this lease. There shall be allocated to the land covered by this lease included in any such unit that portion of the total production of pooled minerals from wells in the unit, after deducting any used in lease or well operations, which the net oil or gas acreage in the land covered by this lease included in the unit bears to the total number of surface acres in the unit. The production so allocated shall be considered for all purposes, including the payment or delivery of royalty, to be the entire production of pooled minerals from the portion of said land covered hereby and included in said unit, in the same manner as though produced from said land under the terms of this lease. Any pooled unit designated by lessee, as provided herein, may be dissolved by lessee by recording an appropriate instrument in the county where the land is situated at any time after the completion of a dry hole or the cessation of production on said unit.

6. If at the expiration of the primary term there is no well upon said land capable of producing oil or gas, but lessee has commenced operations for drilling or reworking thereon, this lease shall remain in force so long as operations are prosecuted with no cessation of more than 180 consecutive days, whether such operations be on the same well or on a different or additional well or wells, and if they result in the production of oil or gas, so long thereafter as oil or gas is produced from said land. If after the expiration of the primary term, all wells upon said land should become incapable of producing for any cause, this lease shall not terminate if lessee commences operations for additional drilling or for reworking within 180 days thereafter. If any drilling, additional drilling, or reworking operations hereunder result in production, then this lease shall remain in full force so long thereafter as oil or gas is produced hereunder.

7. Lessee shall have the use of all, gas and water from said land, except water from lessee's wells and tanks, for all operations hereunder, and the royalty shall be computed after deducting any so used. Lessee shall have the right at any time during or after the expiration of this lease to remove all property and fixtures placed by lessee on said land, including the right to drive and remove all casing. When required by lessee, lessee will bury all pipe lines on unattended lands below ordinary plow depth, and no well shall be drilled within two hundred feet (200 ft.) of any residence or house now on said land without lessee's consent. Lessee shall have the privilege, at his risk and expense, of using gas from any gas well on said land for storage and inside lights in the principal dwelling thereon, out of any surplus gas not needed for operations hereunder.

8. The rights of either party hereunder may be assigned in whole or in part and the provisions hereof shall extend to their heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns; but no change in the ownership of the land or in the ownership of, or rights to receive, royalties or shut-in royalties, however accomplished, shall operate to enlarge the obligations or diminish the rights of lessee, and no such change or division shall be binding upon lessee for any purpose until 90 days after lessee has been furnished by certified mail at lessee's principal place of business with acceptable instruments or certified copies thereof constituting the chain of title from the original lessor. If any such change in ownership occurs through the death of the owner, lessee may, at its option, pay or tender any royalty or shut-in royalty in the name of the deceased or to his heirs, executor or administrator until such time as lessee has been furnished with evidence satisfactory to lessee as to the persons entitled to such sums. An assignment of this lease in whole or in part shall, to the extent of such assignment, relieve and discharge lessee of any obligations hereunder and, if lessee or assignee of part or parts hereof shall fail or make default in the payment of the proportionate part of royalty or shut-in royalty due from such lessee or assignee or fail to comply with any of the provisions of this lease, such default shall not affect this lease insofar as it covers a part of said lands upon which lessee or any assignee thereof shall properly occupy or make such payments.

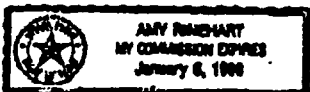
9. Should lessee be prevented from complying with any express or implied covenant of this lease, or from conducting drilling or reworking operations hereunder, or from producing oil or gas hereunder by reason of scarcity or inability to obtain or use equipment or material, or by operation of force majeure, or by any federal or state law or any order, rule or regulation of governmental authority, then while so prevented, lessee's duty shall be suspended, and lessee shall not be liable for failure to comply therewith, and this lease shall be extended while and as long as lessee is prevented by any such cause from conducting drilling or reworking operations or from producing oil or gas hereunder; and the time while lessee is so prevented shall not be counted against lessee, anything in this lease to the contrary notwithstanding.

11. Lessee, or his successors, heirs and assigns, shall have the right at any time to surrender this lease, in whole or in part, in lease or his heirs, successors, and assigns by delivering or mailing a release thereof to the lessor, or by placing a release thereof of record in the county in which said land is situated; thereupon lessee shall be relieved from all obligations, expressed or implied, of this agreement as to acreage so surrendered, and thereafter the shut-in royalty payable hereunder shall be reduced in the proportion that the acreage so surrendered hereby is reduced by said release or releases.

Erma Stokes Hamilton  
Erma Stokes Hamilton

STATE OF TEXAS }  
COUNTY OF HOWARD }

This instrument was acknowledged before me on the 5th day of September, 1997, by Erma Stokes Hamilton, dealing in her sole and separate property.



My commission expires:  
January 6, 1998

Arny Linhardt  
Notary Public

EXHIBIT "A"

Attached to and made a part of that certain oil and gas lease dated August 25, 1997, but effective December 7, 1997, by and between Erma Stokes Hamilton, lessor, and Ameristate Oil & Gas, Inc., lessee:

12. Notwithstanding anything contained hereinabove to the contrary, it is understood and agreed that at the expiration of the primary term, this lease shall terminate as to all lands covered hereby not included in or otherwise allocated to a "well unit" as hereinafter defined, unless lessee is producing oil, gas or other hydrocarbons from any well on the leased premises, or lands pooled therewith, or is drilling upon said lands across the expiration of the primary term as provided for in the body of this lease, and does not allow more than 180 days to elapse between the completion or abandonment of one well on such land and the commencement of another well thereon until the leased premises have been "fully developed," as hereinafter defined. Operations for drilling of the first such development well must be commenced (a) within 180 days after the expiration of the primary term if production is established under this lease prior to the expiration of the primary term, or (b) within 180 days of completion of the well which is being drilled, tested or completed across the expiration of the primary term. Should lessee fail to timely commence a well in accordance with aforesaid 180 days continuous drilling or development prior to the point in time the leased premises have fully developed then this lease shall terminate as to all lands not included in or otherwise allocated to a well unit. For the purpose hereof, the term "well unit" shall mean the proration or spacing unit created for a well capable of producing oil and/or gas or other hydrocarbons in paying quantities as in accordance with the applicable rules and regulations of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division or other governmental authority having jurisdiction, and the term "fully developed" shall mean the point in time when the entirety of the leased premises has been included in a well unit or units as defined. The date of completion of a well shall be the date of a potential test if a producing well and the date of plugging if a dry hole or abandoned well. At the end of the continuous drilling program, if any, this lease will automatically terminate as to all lands covered hereby which have not been so fully developed and as to lands so fully developed shall terminate as to all depths lying more than 100' below the total depth drilled.

13. Payment of shut-in gas well royalties will not be permitted to maintain this lease in force for any period longer than two consecutive years, without the written consent of Lessor.

Signed for identification purposes:

Erma Stokes Hamilton  
Erma Stokes Hamilton



14262

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
COUNTY OF LEA  
FILED

OCT 1 1997  
at 11:13 a.m. in Book 827  
Page 126  
Per Chappela, Lea County Clerk  
By [Signature] Deputy

# EXHIBIT C

District I  
PO Box 1960, Hobbs, NM 88241-1980  
District II  
811 South First, Artesia, NM 88210  
District III  
1000 Rio Brazos Rd., Artesia, NM 87410  
District IV  
2040 South Pacheco, Santa Fe, NM 87505

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Department  
**OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**  
2040 South Pacheco  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Form C-101  
Revised October 18, 1994  
Instructions on back  
Submit to Appropriate District Office  
State Lease - 6 Copies  
Fee Lease - 3 Copies

☐ AMENDED REPORT

**APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO DRILL, RE-ENTER, DEEPEN, PLUGBACK, OR ADD A ZONE**

<sup>1</sup> Operator Name and Address: <b>TMBR/Sharp Drilling, Inc.</b> <b>P. O. Drawer 10970</b> <b>Midland, TX 79702</b>		<sup>1</sup> OGRID Number <b>036554</b>
		<sup>1</sup> API Number <b>30-025-35257</b> <b>-30-0</b>
<sup>4</sup> Property Code <b>24469</b>	<sup>4</sup> Property Name <b>Blue Fln "24"</b>	<sup>4</sup> Well No. <b>1</b>

**7 Surface Location**

UT. or lot no.	Section	Township	Range	Lot Idn	Feet from the	North/South line	Feet from the	East/West line	Corner
M	24	16S	35E		660	West	760	South	Lea

**8 Proposed Bottom Hole Location If Different From Surface**

UT. or lot no.	Section	Township	Range	Lot Idn	Feet from the	North/South line	Feet from the	East/West line	Corner
<sup>8</sup> Proposed Pool 1 <b>Townsend (Morrow)</b>					<sup>8</sup> Proposed Pool 2				

<sup>10</sup> Work Type Code	<sup>10</sup> Well Type Code	<sup>10</sup> Cable/ Rotary	<sup>10</sup> Lease Type Code	<sup>10</sup> Ground Level Elevation
N	G	R	P	-3956-3964
<sup>10</sup> Multiple	<sup>10</sup> Proposed Depth	<sup>10</sup> Formation	<sup>10</sup> Contractor	<sup>10</sup> Spud Date
No	12,800'	Morrow	TMBR/Sharp	11/19/00

**21 Proposed Casing and Cement Program**

Hole Size	Casing Size	Casing weight/foot	Setting Depth	Bags of Cement	Estimated TOC
17 1/2"	13 3/8"	48	450	440	Surface
11"	8 5/8"	32	5,000	1,800	Surface
7 1/2"	5 1/2"	17	12,800	1,200	4,800

**22 Describe the proposed program. If this application is to DEEPEN or PLUG BACK give the data on the present productive zone and proposed new productive zone. Describe the blowout prevention program, if any. Use additional sheets if necessary.**

It is proposed to drill a 17 1/2" hole to  $\pm 450'$  with FW, set 13 3/8" casing and cement casing back to surface. An 11" intermediate hole will then be drilled to  $\pm 5,000'$  w/brine-cut brine system and an 8 5/8" casing string will be set and cemented back to surface. A 3000 psi annular preventer and 3000 psi dual ram BOP will be used on the intermediate hole. A 7 1/2" hole will be drilled to an approximate TD of 12,800' w/FW mud. The 5 1/2" casing will be set at TD and cemented back to the intermediate casing at 5,000'. A 3000 psi annular preventer and a 5000 psi dual ram BOP will be used on the 7 1/2" hole. Mud up will occur between 9,000' and 11,000' and several DST's are planned.

<sup>23</sup> I hereby certify that the information given above is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: *J. D. Phillips*

Printed Name: **Jeffrey D. Phillips**

Title: **Vice President**

Date: **November 16, 2000**

Phone: (512) 499-0080

**OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**

Approved by: **ORIGINAL SIGNED BY**

**GARY WINK**

Title: **FIELD REP. II**

Approval Date: **NOV 22 2000** Expiration Date:

Conditions of Approval:

Attached ☐

Permit Expires 1 Year From Approval  
Date Unless Drilling Underway

305

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# EXHIBIT D

# EXHIBIT E



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OIL &amp; GAS LEASE

THIS AGREEMENT made this 15th day of March, 1981 between Madeline Shady, dealing with her sole and separate property, whose address is P. O. Box 1119, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 herein called lessor (whether one or more) and John P. Hill, P. O. Box 111, Alameda, Texas 75719, lessee;

1. Lessee, in consideration of \$25,000 CASH BIDDING in hand paid, receipt of which is here acknowledged, and of the royalties herein provided and of the agreement of the lessor herein contained, hereby grants, leases and lets exclusively unto Lessee for the purpose of investigating, exploring, prospecting, drilling, and operating for and producing oil and gas, injecting gas, water, other fluids, and air into subsurface strata, laying pipelines, storing oil, building tanks, roadways, telephone lines, and other structures and things thereon to produce, save, take care of, treat, process, store and transport said minerals, the following described land in San County, New Mexico, to-wit:

Tracting 16 South, Range 26 East, N.M.P.M.  
 Section 13: NW/4  
 Section 23: NW/4  
 Section 24: NW/4SW/4, NW/4SE/4  
 Section 25: NW/4  
 Section 26: NW/4

Said land is estimated to comprise 120.00 acres, whether it actually comprises more or less.

2. Subject to the other provisions herein contained, this lease shall remain in force for a term of three (3) years beginning on 3/15/81 (called "primary term") and as long thereafter as oil or gas is produced from said land or from land with which said land is pooled.

3. The royalties to be paid by Lessee are: (a) on oil, and other liquid hydrocarbons saved at the well, three-eighths (3/8ths) of that produced and saved from said land, same to be delivered at the well or to the credit of Lessee in the pipeline to which the wells may be connected; (b) on gas, including casinghead gas or other gaseous substances produced from said land and used off the premises or used in the manufacture of gasoline or other products, the market value at the well of three-eighths (3/8ths) of the gas used, provided that on gas sold on or off the premises, the royalties shall be the proceeds (7/8ths) of the amount realized from such sales; (c) and at any time when this lease is not validated by other provisions hereof and there is a gas and/or condensate well on said land, or land pooled therewith, but gas or condensate is not being so sold or used and such well is shut in, either before or after production therefrom, then on or before 90 days after said well is shut in, and thereafter at annual intervals, Lessee may pay or tender an advance shut-in royalty equal to \$1.00 per net acre of Lessee's gas acreage then held under this lease by the party making such payment or tender, and so long as said shut-in royalty is paid or tendered, this lease shall not terminate and it shall be considered under all covenants hereof that gas is being produced from the leased premises in paying quantities. Each such payment shall be paid or tendered to the party or parties who at the time of such payment would be entitled to receive the royalties which would be paid under this lease if the well were in fact producing. The payment or tender of royalty and shut-in royalty may be made by check or draft. Any timely payment or tender of shut-in royalty which is made in a bona fide attempt to make proper payment, but which is erroneous in whole or in part as to parties or amounts, shall nevertheless be sufficient to prevent termination of this lease in the same manner as though a proper payment had been made if Lessee shall correct such error within 30 days after Lessee has received written notice thereof by certified mail from the party or parties entitled to receive payment together with such written instruments (or certified copies thereof) as are necessary to enable Lessee to make proper payment. The amount realized from the sale of gas on or off the premises shall be the price established by the gas sales contract entered into in good faith by Lessee and gas purchaser for such term and under such conditions as are customary in the industry. "Price" shall mean the net amount received by Lessee after giving effect to applicable regulatory orders and after application of any applicable price adjustments specified in such contract or regulatory orders. In the event Lessee contracts, assigns, or otherwise transfers its interest in this lease, it shall be the duty of Lessee to execute and deliver to the interest purchaser a written instrument setting forth the royalty and shut-in royalty provisions of this lease and to execute and deliver to the interest purchaser a written instrument setting forth the shut-in royalty provisions of this lease.

4. This is a paid-up lease and Lessee shall not be obligated during the primary term hereof to commence or continue any operations of whatsoever character or to make any payments hereunder in order to maintain this lease in force during the primary term; however, this provision is not intended to relieve Lessee of the obligation to pay royalties on actual production pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 3 hereof.

5. Lessee is hereby granted the right and power, from time to time, to pool or combine this lease, the land covered by it or any part or lands thereof with any other land, leases, mineral estates or parts thereof for the production of oil or gas. Units pooled hereunder shall not exceed the maximum production unit fixed by law or by the Oil Conservation Division of the Energy and Minerals Department of the State of New Mexico or by any other local authority for the pool or area in which said land is situated, plus a tolerance of ten percent. Lessee shall file written unit designations in the county in which the premises are located and such units may be designated from time to time and either before or after the completion of wells. Drilling operations on or production from any part of any such unit shall be considered for all purposes, except the payment of royalty, as operations conducted upon or production from the land described in this lease. There shall be allocated to the land covered by this lease included in any such unit that portion of the total production of pooled minerals from wells in the unit, after deducting any used in lease or unit operations, which the net oil or gas acreage in the land covered by this lease included in the unit bears to the total number of surface acres in the unit. The production so allocated shall be considered for all purposes, including the payment or delivery of royalty, to be the entire production of pooled minerals from the portion of said land covered hereby and included in said unit in the same manner as though produced from said land under the terms of this lease. Any pooled unit designated by Lessee, as provided herein, may be dissolved by Lessee by executing an appropriate instrument in the County where the land is situated at any time after the completion of a dry hole or the cessation of production on said unit.

6. If at the expiration of the primary term there is no well upon said land capable of producing oil or gas, but Lessee has commenced operations for drilling or reworking thereon, this lease shall remain in force so long as operations are prosecuted with no cessation of more than 60 consecutive days, whether such operations be on the same well or on a different or additional well on said land, and if they result in the production of oil or gas, so long thereafter as oil or gas is produced from said land. If, after the expiration of the primary term, all wells upon said land should become incapable of producing for any cause, this lease shall not terminate if Lessee commences operations for additional drilling or for reworking within 60 days thereafter. If any drilling, additional drilling, or reworking operations hereunder result in production, then this lease shall remain in full force so long thereafter as oil or gas is produced hereunder.

7. Lessee shall have free use of oil, gas and water from said land, except water from Lessee's wells and tanks, for all operations hereunder, and the royalty shall be computed after deducting any so used. Lessee shall have the right at any time during or after the expiration of this lease to remove all property and fixtures placed by Lessee on said land, including the right to clear and remove all casing. When required by Lessee, Lessee will bury all pipe lines on unmineralized lands below ordinary plow depth, and no well shall be drilled within two hundred feet (200 ft.) of any residence or house on said land without Lessee's consent. Lessee shall have the privilege, at his risk and expense, of using gas from any gas well on said land for stoves and inside lights in the principal dwelling thereon, and of any surplus gas not needed for operations hereunder.

8. The rights of either party hereunder may be assigned in whole or in part and the provisions hereof shall extend to their heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns; but no change in the ownership of the land

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INDIVIDUAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT (New Mexico Short Form)

NAME OF \_\_\_\_\_  
COUNTY OF Cochise

This instrument was acknowledged before me on April 3, 2001, by \_\_\_\_\_  
Notary



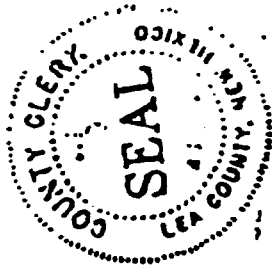
Florida K. Shaw  
Notary Public, State of Texas  
My Commission Expires: 07-05-2004

07161

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
COUNTY OF LEA  
FILED

JUN 11 2001

at 10:50 AM  
and recorded in Book \_\_\_\_\_  
Page \_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public, Lea County, New Mexico  
By \_\_\_\_\_



# EXHIBIT F

## OIL &amp; GAS LEASE

THIS AGREEMENT made this 17th day of March, 1991 between THE NEW MEXICO OIL & GAS COMMISSION and THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO, by and through their duly authorized representatives, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the following lease is a valid and enforceable lease.

1. Lessee, in consideration of THE NEW MEXICO OIL & GAS COMMISSION in hand paid, receipt of which is here acknowledged, and of the royalties herein provided and of the agreement of the lessee herein contained, hereby grants, leases and lets exclusively unto Lessee for the purpose of investigating, exploring, prospecting, drilling, and operating for and producing oil and gas, including gas, water, other fluids, and air line substances therefrom, laying pipelines, securing oil, building tanks, conduits, telephone lines, and other structures and things therein to produce, care, take care of, treat, process, store and transport said minerals, the following described land in San Juan County, New Mexico, to-wit:

Tract No. 15, Block 1, Lot 24, East, R.M. 7, N.M.

Section 13: 20/4

Section 20: 20/4

Section 24: 20/4, 20/4, 20/4

Section 28: 20/4

Section 32: 20/4

Said land is estimated to comprise 720.00 acres, whether it actually comprises more or less.

2. Subject to the other provisions herein contained, this lease shall remain in force for a term of three (3) years from the 1<sup>st</sup>, 1991 (called "primary term") and as long thereafter as oil or gas is produced from said land or from land with which said land is pooled.

3. The royalties to be paid by Lessee are: (a) on oil, and other liquid hydrocarbons saved at the well, thirty percent (30%) of their production and saved from said land, same to be delivered at the well or to the credit of Lessee in the pipeline to which the wells may be connected; (b) on gas, including condensed gas or other gaseous substances produced from said land and used off the premises or used in the manufacture of gasoline or other products, the royalty value at the well of thirty percent (30%) of the gas used, provided that on gas sold on or off the premises, the royalty shall be thirty percent (30%) of the amount realized from such sales; (c) and at any time when this lease is not validated by other provisions hereof and there is a gas and/or condensate well on said land, or land pooled therewith, but gas or condensate is not being so sold or used and such well is shut in, either before or after production therefrom, then on or before 90 days after said well is shut in, and thereafter at annual intervals, Lessee may pay or tender an advance shut-in royalty equal to \$1.00 per net acre of Lessee's gas acreage then held under this lease by the party making such payment or tender, and so long as said shut-in royalty is paid or tendered, this lease shall not terminate and it shall be considered under all circumstances hereof that gas is being produced from the leased premises in paying quantities. Such such payment shall be paid or tendered to the party or parties who at the time of such payment could be entitled to receive the royalties which would be paid under this lease if the well were in fact producing. The payment or tender of royalties and shut-in royalties may be made by check or draft. Any timely payment or tender of shut-in royalty which is made in a bona fide attempt to make proper payment, but which is erroneous in whole or in part as to parties or amounts, shall nevertheless be sufficient to prevent termination of this lease in the case where as though a proper payment had been made if Lessee shall correct such error within 90 days after Lessee has received written notice thereof by certified mail from the party or parties entitled to receive payment together with such written instruments (or certified copies thereof) as are necessary to enable Lessee to make proper payment. The amount realized from the sale of gas on or off the premises shall be the price established by the gas sales contract entered into in good faith by Lessee and gas purchaser for such term and under such conditions as are customary in the industry. "Price" shall mean the net amount received by Lessee after giving effect to applicable regulatory action and after application of any applicable price adjustments specified in such contract or regulatory action. In-the-event however, no such contract, or conditions, or adjustments such as (whether on or off the leased premises or otherwise) charge for such of such conditions, conditions, or adjustments.

4. This is a paid-up lease and Lessee shall not be obligated during the primary term hereof to commence or continue any operations of whatever character or to make any payments hereunder in order to maintain this lease in force during the primary term; however, this provision is not intended to relieve Lessee of the obligation to pay royalties on actual production pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 3 hereof.

5. Lessee is hereby granted the right and power, from time to time, to pool or combine this lease, the land covered by it or any part or portions thereof with any other land, leases, mineral estates or parts thereof for the production of oil or gas. Units pooled hereunder shall not exceed the standard provision unit filed by law or by the Oil Conservation Division of the Energy and Minerals Department of the State of New Mexico or by any other lawful authority for the pool or area in which said land is situated, plus a balance of the pool. Lessee shall file within said designations in the county in which the premises are located and such units may be designated from time to time and either before or after the completion of wells. Drilling operations on or production from any part of any such unit shall be considered for all purposes, except the payment of royalty, as operations conducted on or production from the land described in this lease. There shall be allocated to the land covered by this lease included in any such unit that portion of the total production of pooled minerals from wells in the unit, after deducting any used in lease or unit operations, which the net oil or gas acreage in the land covered by this lease included in the unit bears to the total number of net acres in the unit. The production or allocated shall be considered for all purposes, including the payment or delivery of royalty, to be the entire production of pooled minerals from the portion of said land covered hereby and included in said unit in the same manner as though produced from said land under the terms of this lease. Any pooled unit designated by Lessee, as provided herein, may be dissolved by Lessee by recording an appropriate instrument in the County where the land is situated at any time after the completion of a dry hole or the cessation of production on said unit.

6. If at the expiration of the primary term there is no well upon said land capable of producing oil or gas, but Lessee has commenced operations for drilling or reworking thereof, this lease shall remain in force so long as operations are prosecuted with no cessation of more than 60 consecutive days, whether such operations be on the same well or on a different or additional well or wells, and if they result in the production of oil or gas, so long thereafter as oil or gas is produced from said land. If, after the expiration of the primary term, all wells upon said land should become incapable of producing for any cause, this lease shall not terminate if Lessee commences operations for additional drilling or for reworking within 60 days thereafter. If any drilling, additional drilling, or reworking operations hereunder result in production, then this lease shall remain in full force so long thereafter as oil or gas is produced hereunder.

7. Lessee shall have free use of oil, gas and water from said land, except under three Lessee's wells and tanks, for all operations hereunder, and the royalty shall be computed after deducting any so used. Lessee shall have the right at any time during or after the expiration of this lease to remove all property and fixtures placed by Lessee on said land, including the right to draw and remove all casing. When required by Lessee, Lessee will bury all pipe lines on cultivated lands below ordinary plow depth, and no well shall be drilled within the hundred feet (100 ft.) of any production or bore well on said land without Lessee's consent. Lessee shall have the privilege, at his risk and expense, of using gas from any gas well on said land for power and inside lights in the principal dwelling thereon, out of any surplus gas not needed for operations hereunder.

8. The rights of either party hereunder may be assigned in whole or in part and the provisions hereof shall extend to their heirs, successors, administrators, executors and assigns; but no change in the ownership of the land

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or in the ownership of, or rights to receive, royalties or shut-in royalties, however accomplished shall operate to enlarge the obligations or diminish the rights of lessors and no such change or division shall be binding upon lessors for any purpose until 30 days after lessors have been furnished by certified mail at lessors' principal place of business with acceptable instruments or certified copies thereof constituting the chain of title from the original lessors. If any such change in ownership occurs through the death of the owner, lessors may, at its option, pay or tender any royalties or shut-in royalties in the name of the deceased or to his estate or to his heirs, executor or administrator until such time as lessors have been furnished with evidence satisfactory to lessors as to the persons entitled to such sums. An assignment of this lease in whole or in part shall, to the extent of such assignment, relieve and discharge lessors of any obligations hereunder and, if lessors or assignee of part or parts hereof shall fail or refuse default in the payment of the proportionate part of royalty or shut-in royalty due from such lessors or assignee or fail to comply with any of the provisions of this lease, such default shall not affect this lease insofar as it covers a part of said lands upon which lessors or any assignee thereof shall properly comply or make such payments.

9. Should lessors be prevented from complying with any express or implied covenant of this lease, or from conducting drilling or reworking operations hereunder, or from producing oil or gas hereunder by reason of necessity or inability to obtain or use equipment or material, or by operation of force majeure, or by any National or State Law or any order, rule or regulation of governmental authority, then while so prevented, lessors' duty shall be suspended, and lessors shall not be liable for failure to comply therewith, and this lease shall be extended while and as long as lessors are prevented by any such cause from conducting drilling or reworking operations or from producing oil or gas hereunder; and the time while lessors are so prevented shall not be counted against lessors, anything in this lease to the contrary notwithstanding.

10. Lessor hereby warrants and agrees to defend the title to said land and agrees that lessors at its option may discharge any tax, mortgage or other lien upon said land, and in the event lessors does so it shall be subrogated to such lien with the right to enforce same and to apply royalties and shut-in royalties payable hereunder toward satisfaction of same. Without impairment of lessors' rights under the warranty, if this lease covers a lease interest in the oil and gas in all or any part of said land then the entire and undivided fee simple estate (whether lessors' interest is herein specified or not) then the royalties, shut-in royalty, and other payments, if any, accruing from any part or to which this lease covers less than such fee interest, shall be paid only in the proportion which the interest therein, if any, covered by this lease, bears to the whole and undivided fee simple estate therein. Should any one or more of the parties named above as lessors fail to execute this lease, it shall nevertheless be binding upon the party or parties executing the same.

11. Lessors, its or his successors, heirs and assigns, shall have the right at any time to surrender this lease, in whole or in part, to lessor or his heirs, executors, and assigns by delivering or mailing a release thereof to the lessee, or by placing a release thereof of record in the county in which said land is situated; thereupon lessors shall be relieved from all obligations, expressed or implied, of this agreement as to acreage so surrendered, and thereafter the shut-in royalty payable hereunder shall be reduced in the proportion that the acreage covered hereby is reduced by said release or releases.

## ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

12. Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, at the end of the primary term, this lease will terminate as to all oil lands and then included in or deemed to be a spacing or production unit otherwise so producing well (which shall include shut-in wells) unless:

a) Lessors have drilled, deepened, reworked or recompleted a well on said lands above described or on lands pooled therewith and within one hundred eighty (180) days prior to the expiration of the primary term, completed said well as a producer of oil and/or gas, or plugged said well as a dry hole, or

b) At the expiration of the primary term, lessors is engaged in drilling, deepening, reworking or recompleting operations on said lands or on lands pooled therewith;

and neither Lessor nor its successors shall engage in drilling or reworking operations on the drilling of a new well, or the deepening, reworking or recompleting of an existing well, on lands pooled therewith within one hundred eighty (180) days after the date of (a) the expiration of the primary term, or (b) the completion or plugging of any well drilled, deepened, reworked or recompleted on or subsequent to the expiration of the primary term. For the purposes hereof, "completing" shall be the date of the filing of the plat of the well with the appropriate governmental authority having jurisdiction, if operations on a well is plugged as a dry hole, the "plugging" shall be the date of filing the plugging report with the appropriate governmental authority having jurisdiction.

13. When Lessor owns and controls all the acreage, this lease shall terminate as to all acreage then included in a spacing or production unit otherwise so producing well (which shall include shut-in wells) unless and until recompleted by the appropriate governmental authority having jurisdiction, at the date of termination or, in the absence of a spacing or production unit, the date of the filing of the plat of the well with the appropriate governmental authority having jurisdiction, if operations on a well is plugged as a dry hole, the "plugging" shall be the date of filing the plugging report with the appropriate governmental authority having jurisdiction.

14. Notwithstanding such termination, lessors shall have a continuing right of way and easement on, over and across all the land covered hereby for the construction, use, maintenance, replacement, or removal of pipelines, roads, telephone lines, electric lines, tank and other facilities for its operations hereunder on land remaining covered by this lease following such termination.

15. This oil and gas lease is subordinate to that certain "Prior Lease" dated August 23, 1997, effective December 7, 1997, recorded in Book 087, page 124, Lea County Records, as amended by instrument dated \_\_\_\_\_, 1999, recorded in Book \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_, Lea County Records, but only to the extent that said Prior Lease is currently a valid and subsisting oil and gas lease. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this oil and gas lease, the end of the primary term hereof shall be extended until the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) anniversary date of this oil and gas lease and following expiration of the continuous development provision contained in said Paragraph No. 15 on this lease "up" extended to the Prior Lease, provided that in no event shall the primary term hereof expire later than the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary date of this oil and gas lease. Extension of this oil and gas lease by lessors shall never be construed as a modification or revision of the Prior Lease. Lessor specifically agrees not to enter into any agreement of any kind that would extend or continue the primary term or the continuous development provision of the Prior Lease, or modify any of the existing provisions of the Prior Lease.

Witnessed the day and year first above written.

By: [Signature] Hamilton #59-00-0364  
[Signature]

4-4-01

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or in the ownership of, or rights to receive, royalties or shut-in royalties, however accomplished shall operate to enlarge the obligations or diminish the rights of Lessee; and no such change or division shall be binding upon Lessee for any purpose until 30 days after Lessee has been furnished by certified mail at Lessee's principal place of business with acceptable instruments or certified copies thereof constituting the chain of title from the original Lessee. If any such change in ownership occurs through the death of the owner, Lessee may, at its option, pay or tender any royalties or shut-in royalties in the name of the deceased or to his estate or to his heirs, executor or administrator until such time as Lessee has been furnished with evidence satisfactory to Lessee as to the persons entitled to such sums. An assignment of this lease in whole or in part shall, to the extent of such assignment, release and discharge Lessee of any obligations hereunder and, if Lessee or assignee of part or parts hereof shall fail or refuse to comply with any of the provisions of this lease, such default shall not affect this lease in whole or in part or as a part of said lease upon which Lessee or any assignee thereof shall properly comply or make such payments.

9. Should Lessee be prevented from complying with any express or implied covenant of this lease, or from conducting drilling or reworking operations hereunder, or from producing oil or gas hereunder by reason of curtesy or inability to obtain or use equipment or material, or by operation of force majeure, or by any Federal or State law or any order, rule or regulation of governmental authority, then this lease shall be suspended, and Lessee shall not be liable for failure to comply therewith, and this lease shall be extended while and so long as Lessee is prevented by any such cause from conducting drilling or reworking operations or from producing oil or gas hereunder; and the time while Lessee is so prevented shall not be counted against Lessee, anything in this lease to the contrary notwithstanding.

10. Lessee hereby warrants and agrees to defend the title to said land and agrees that Lessee or its option may discharge any tax, mortgage or other lien upon said land, and in the event Lessee does so it shall be subrogated to such lien with the right to remove same and to apply royalties and shut-in royalties payable hereunder toward satisfying same. Without impairment of Lessee's rights under the warranty, if this lease covers a lease interest in the oil and gas in all or any part of said land then the entire and undivided fee simple estate (whether Lessee's interest is herein specified or not) then the royalties, shut-in royalties, and other payments, if any, accruing from any part on which this lease covers less than such full interest, shall be paid only in the proportion which the interest therein, if any, covered by this lease, bears to the whole and undivided fee simple estate therein. Should any one or more of the parties named above as Lessors fail to execute this lease, it shall nevertheless be binding upon the party or parties executing the same.

11. Lessee, its or his successors, heirs and assigns, shall have the right at any time to encumber this lease, in whole or in part, to Lessee or his heirs, successors, and assigns by delivering or mailing a release thereof to the Lessee, or by placing a release thereof of record in the county in which said land is situated thereupon Lessee shall be relieved from all obligations, expressed or implied, of this covenant as to acreage so encumbered, and thereafter the shut-in royalty payable hereunder shall be reduced in the proportion that the acreage covered hereby is reduced by said release or releases.

## ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

12. Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, at the end of the primary term, this lease will terminate as to all said land not then included in or attached to a spacing or production well allowed to be completed and which shall include shut-in wells and

(1) Lessee shall, drilled, completed or recompleting a well on said land above described or on land pooled therewith and within one hundred eighty (180) days prior to the expiration of the primary term, completed said well as a producer of oil and/or gas, or plugged said well as a dry hole, or

(2) At the expiration of the primary term, Lessee is engaged in drilling, completing, reworking or recompleting operations on said land or on land pooled therewith;

and/or Lessee commences a continuous drilling program whereby operations for the drilling of a new well, or the deepening, reworking or recompleting of an existing well, are commenced within one hundred eighty (180) days after the lease to cover of (1) the expiration of the primary term, or (2) the completion or plugging of any well drilled, deepened, reworked or recompleting or subsequent to the expiration of the primary term. For the purposes hereof, "completion" shall include the filing of the completed test report with the appropriate governmental authority having jurisdiction. If a producer or, if a well is plugged as a dry hole, the "plugging" shall be the date of filing the plugging report with the appropriate governmental authority having jurisdiction.

13. When Lessee commences continuous drilling program, this lease shall terminate as to all acreage then included in a spacing or production well allowed to be completed and which shall include shut-in wells and/or acreage then included in the appropriate governmental authority having jurisdiction, at the time of termination or, in the absence of acreage then included in the shut-in well, then each gas well (which shall include shut-in wells) shall be allowed 250 acres plus a volume of 100, for a spacing or production well, and each oil well (which shall include shut-in wells) shall be allowed 50 acres plus a volume of 100, for a spacing or production well. Each such spacing or production well shall be deemed as payable in the shape of a space or acreage surrounding such well.

14. Notwithstanding such termination, Lessee shall have a continuing right of way and easement on, over and across all the land covered hereby for the construction, use, maintenance, replacement, or removal of pipelines, roads, telephone lines, electric lines, tank and other facilities for its operations hereunder on land remaining covered by this lease following such termination.

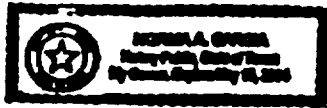
15. This oil and gas lease is subordinate to that certain "Prior Lease" dated August 23, 1967, effective December 7, 1967, recorded in Book 217, page 184, Lea County Records, as amended by instrument dated \_\_\_\_\_, 1966, recorded in Book \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_, Lea County Records, but only to the extent that said Prior Lease is currently a valid and subsisting oil and gas lease. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this oil and gas lease, the end of the primary term hereof shall be extended until the third (3) anniversary date of this oil and gas lease term following expiration of the continuous development provision contained in said Paragraph No. 12 on this date "or" attached to the Prior Lease, provided that in no event shall the primary term hereof expire later than the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary date of this oil and gas lease. Extension of this oil and gas lease by Lessee shall never be extended as a modification or novation of the Prior Lease. Lessee specifically agrees not to enter into any agreement of any kind that would extend or modify the primary term or the continuous development provision of the Prior Lease, or modify any of the existing provisions of the Prior Lease.

Witnessed this day and year first above written.

*Yvonne Hamilton* 459-20-2344  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

4-4-61

BOOK OF Page  
COUNTY OF Hewitt  
This instrument was acknowledged before me on April 4 2001, by \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



James A. Garcia  
Notary Public, State of New Mexico  
My Commission Expires: 01-01-2004

ILLEGIBLE

07162

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
COUNTY OF LEA  
FILED  
JUN 11 2001  
at 10:50 am A.M.  
and recorded in Book \_\_\_\_\_  
Page \_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public, Lea County, New Mexico  
By \_\_\_\_\_





ILLEGIBLE

07163

RATIFICATION

STATE OF NEW MEXICO )  
COUNTY OF LEA )

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

For and in consideration of the premises and for other good and valuable consideration the sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, Tom Stokes and John David Stokes (hereinafter referred to as "Lessor") whose mailing address is PO Box 932, Ozona, Texas 78943 does hereby adopt, ratify and confirm that certain oil and gas lease dated March 27, 2001, executed by Erma Hamilton covering the following described property in Lea County, New Mexico, to-wit:

Township 19 South, Range 35 East, N.M.P.M.  
Section 13: SE/4  
Section 23: SE/4  
Section 24: NW/4SW/4, NW/4NE/4  
Section 25: NW/4  
Section 26: NE/4

a copy of which is recorded at bk 1084 pg 285, Lea County, New Mexico (the "Lease"), in all its terms and conditions and acknowledge and agree that as of the execution of this instrument that the Lease is a valid and subsisting oil and gas lease binding upon Lessor to the same extent as if Lessor had executed the Lease in the capacity herein stated.

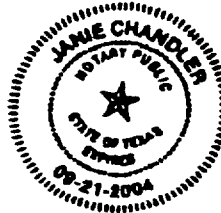
For the same consideration, Lessor does hereby grant, lease and let exclusively unto James D. Huff, whose mailing address is PO Box 705, Mineola, Texas 75773, the lands covered by the lease on the same terms and conditions as contained in the Lease.

This instrument shall inure to the benefit of the parties hereto, there respective heirs, successors, and assigns.

EXECUTED as of the date set forth in the acknowledgment below, but EFFECTIVE for all purposes March 27, 2001.

LESSOR:

Tom Stokes  
Tom Stokes  
John David Stokes  
John David Stokes



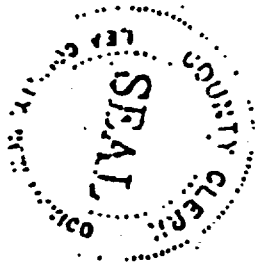
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

STATE OF TEXAS )  
COUNTY OF Crockett )

This instrument was acknowledged before me this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March 2001 by Tom Stokes and John David Stokes.

Jamie Chandler  
Notary Public in and for the State of TX  
Printed Name: JAMIE CHANDLER  
Commission expires: 9-21-2004

ILLEGIBLE



STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
COUNTY OF LEA  
FILED

JUN 11 2001

at 10:50 AM  
and returned to Book \_\_\_\_\_  
Page \_\_\_\_\_  
Noted by: CS  
By: \_\_\_\_\_

- 07163